A

COLLECTION

OF VERY

Valuable and Scarce PIECES

Relating to the Laſt

PLAGUE in the Year 1665.

VIZ.

I. ORDERS drawn up and publiſhed by the Lord Mayor and Aldermen of the City of *London*, to prevent the ſpreading of the Infection.

II. An Account of the firſt Riſe, Progreſs, Symptoms and Cure of the *Plague*, being the Subſtance of a Letter from Doctor *Hodges* to a Perſon of Quality.

III. Neceſſary DIRECTIONS for the Prevention and Cure of the *Plague*, with divers REMEDIES of ſmall Charge, by the College of *Phyſicians*.

IV. REFLECTIONS on the Weekly Bills of *Mortality*, ſo far as they relate to all the *Plagues* which have happened in *London* from the Year 1592, to the Great *Plague* in 1665, and ſome other particular Diſeaſes.

With a Preface ſhewing the *Uſefulneſs* of this Collection; ſome Errors of Dr. *Mead*, and his *miſrepreſentations* of Dr. *Hodges* and ſome Authors.

To which is added,

An Account of the *PLAGUE* at *Naples*, in 1656, of which there died in one Day, 20000 Perſons; with the Symptoms that appeared upon Diſſection, and the approved Method of Cure.

The Second Edition.

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THE PREFACE.

WHEN the Publick has demanded a Method of ſecuring the People under their Direction, from the ſilent Attacks, and the certain Deſtruction of the Plague, and when every private Perſon is conſulting his own Security, by informing himſelf how he may ſo walk as beſt to guard againſt ſo dreadful an Enemy; nothing can come more ſeaſonably, on this Occaſion, than ſome of the beſt and eaſieſt Rules for the Conduct of their Life.

To this purpoſe, I have put together the wiſe Orders the Lord Maior gave for the good Government of this populous City; the Subſtance of Dr. Hodges's Obſervations, compiled by himſelf for the Uſe of a Peer of the Realm, as alſo the little Book he often mentions, that was ſet forth by the College of Phyſicians; and it muſt be allow'd, that the College was never better ſtored with Men of Learning, Virtue and Probity, nothing acquainted with the little Arts of getting a Name, by plotting againſt the Honeſty and Credulity of the People.

This Collection, indeed, may appear to be ſo plain, as to be contemptible; tho' Plainneſs is only con-

temptible to the Unlearned, who want plain Truths the most. A Man can never be too plain, when People are so liable to mistake; and for this very Reason it is plain why this Abstract of Dr. Hodges's *is now necessary, when all Authors that have lately writ of the* Plague *in* 1665, *refer to him as a Judge; but if they had read him, with that Caution at least that he wrote, they never could have mistaken their Author: And if the Learned are thus obnoxious, what Plainness is necessary for an ordinary Reader.*

The Author who considers the Plague of Marseilles, *recommends Bleeding, Vomiting, and Smoaking Tobacco, and that on the Authority of* Dr. Hodges, *tho' all and each of these are the Abomination of the Doctor: His Ivy-berry is pluck'd off his Cap, and placed by this Author on the Cap of his Benefactor.*

Dr. Mead *has misrepresented his Oracle* Dr. Hodges, *no doubt by misunderstanding him, and that almost in every Particular; but I will only mention some few of them. And first, when he would inform us when the Plague in* 1665 *began, he says it was* the Autumn before the Year 1665, (*in* English, *the Autumn* 1664,) *which Account is very unfaithful, because* Dr. Hodges *says in the three first Lines of his Book, that it was in the Close of that Year: What is meant by the Close of a Year, every one, I thought, understood, and* Dr. Hodges *puts it out of doubt, for he says* * *it was in the* Christmas *Holidays he visited*

* Pag. 29. *Short Discourse.* * Pag. 5.

ſited the firſt Patient: Which Account agrees with Graunt's *Bills of Mortality, where it is for* Thurſday *the 27th of* December.

Dr. Mead *undertakes to reſcue us from a vulgar Error,* † That we are uſually viſited with the Plague once in thirty or forty Years; which, *he ſays*, is a mere Fancy, without any Foundation either in Reaſon or Experience. Hodges, *on the other hand, ſays, that this common Opinion* is ‖ well juſtified by paſt Experiences; *and the Bills of Mortality preſent us only with five Plagues in 73 Years. Surely Dr.* Mead *muſt think the People of* England *far gone in Credulity, if he hopes to paſs ſuch a Piece of Hiſtory upon them: But I hope he rather knew nothing of the true State of this Affair.*

Dr. Hodges's *Account of the Seaſon of the Year is very remarkable, and totally ruins the fine Diſpoſition Dr.* Mead *has imagined to be in the Air for producing a* Plague. ** *This, he ſays, is when* not only the Heats are very great, but the Winds (the Uſe of which is, by Motion to purify the Air) do not ſhift and change, *&c. But* Hodges *overſets this Caſtle in the Air, when he informs us, that* †† *the whole Summer was refreſhed* with moderate Breezes, **ſufficient to prevent the Air's Stagnation and Corruption,** and to carry off the Peſtilential Steams: The Heat was likewiſe too mild to encourage ſuch Corruption and Fermentation as helps to taint the animal Fluids, and pervert them from their natural State.

If

† *Short Diſcourſe*, p. 5. ‖ P. 4. ** P. 3. †† P. 13.

If then the great Dr. Mead *has advanced those Assertions chiefly upon the Authority of Dr.* Hodges, *altogether contrary to his Opinions, what can we think of Matters of Practice advanced by Dr.* Mead; *or if so plain Truths are thus misapprehended by a Physician, how suitable is this plain Account to the Capacity of an ordinary Reader?*

I do not follow Dr. Mead *into the many gross Mistakes that are to be found in his* Short Discourse; *I have neither Inclination nor Leisure for it: So far I will assert, that his* Head of Caution *is a very empty Head, without* Doctrine, *without* Use. *However, I must not pass by the great* Judgment *of Dr.* Mead *in comparing the Degrees of a Distemper; for he asserts, that a Plague that kills* infinite Persons (*as my Lord* Bacon *expresses it*) *in one Day, is a Feeble Plague in respect of one that reprieves Mankind for a Week. The Passage is obvious, and serves for a Proof of his Project about the travelling of Plagues, and always losing Strength in their Progress: Yet every other Person, whether a Physician or not, has always reputed, and related the* Sweating Sickness *as a very smart Plague for the Time it lasted; and so far was it from being a Plague of a* feeble Force, *that it had more Strength than that at* Marseilles.

There is one thing more that is very plain from our faithful Historian and diligent Physician Dr. Hodges; *which is, the great Uncertainty, and real Obscurity, not only in the Nature of a Plague, but in discerning likewise when any Person is seized with it; and it is no wonder, upon that account*

count, that Lucretius *ſo finely expreſſes the Surprize of Phyſicians on ſuch a Proſpect,* Muſſat tacito Medicina timore. *From hence proceed not only the Defects, but the Uncertainty of all our Adminiſtrations for curing a Plague. I will only repreſent theſe Wants in an Example or two from our Author, leaving the further Inquiry, with* Thucydides, *to thoſe who can inquire into the Cauſe of this Diſeaſe, or are able at leaſt to point out the poſitive Hurt and Wound that is given a Man when he is ſeized with a Plague.*

The candid Dr. Hodges, *who may be reckoned among the beſt Obſervers in any Age of Phyſick, has not diſſembled the great Difficulties that occurr'd to him in his Practice, and thereby has obtained a greater Name than if he had filled his Book with falſe Accounts of wonderful Succeſs. On the contrary, he tells us, that he believed there* * was always a Fever attended the Plague, yet the Infection ſeemed to kill ſome before the Blood and other Juices could riſe into a Fermentation; *and on this account he pronounces the Diſeaſe to be altogether* unknown; *not as Phyſicians too commonly underſtand this Phraſe, as if it were not fully and perfectly deſcribed: no; for* Hippocrates, Thucydides, *many hundreds of Phyſicians, Hiſtorians and Poets have done that Work to great Perfection; nor is* Dr. Hodges *ſhort of any of them in giving a true Picture of the Plague in his own Time. He informs us too, that there was no* † Corruption *in the Blood of thoſe that were ill or died of the Plague. He warns us, that* ‖ the Pulſe,

* Pag. 98, 99. † P. 103. ‖ P. 151.

Pulſe, which in all other Diſeaſes is almoſt a certain Index, could not at all be truſted to in this Sickneſs.

From this Uncertainty proceeds all the Difficulty of foretelling *the Event of the Plague; as alſo the preſent Impoſſibility in anſwering the Queſtions about evacuating Medicines in curing this Diſeaſe; and the Difficulty increaſes, when we want a Method of adjuſting the proper Doſes of any of the Medicines we would adminiſter.*

But which is of all the moſt grievous, Dr. Hodges *aſſures us, that* * Sweating *is not ſo ſure a Relief as it is commonly repreſented and believed to be; tho' that Evacuation is not notably infamous for doing repeated Miſchief, as* Bleeding, Vomiting, *and* Purging *have been.*

When the nature of the Plague is diſcovered, from the manifeſt Symptoms of it, given by the beſt Authors in every Age of Phyſick, there will be no danger of improper Preſcriptions in the Begining, no Fear of ſurprizing unaccountable Symptoms in the Progreſs of the Diſtemper.

However important Dr. Hodges *judges ſuch Inquiries,* Dr. Mead *calls them* great Digreſſions, *and as if it were more to the Purpoſe, he carries us into the Clouds, and gives us a Scene of the Plague coming from* Egypt *into* Greece, *and from thence into* Europe, *the firſt ſlightly related as a Gueſs and Suppoſition by* Thucydides, *who at the ſame time raiſes it in* Ethiopia, *and* Matthæus Villanus *is only tranſcribed by* Dr. Mead, *who in the* 14th *Century had made it make the* Tour *repreſented by* Dr. Mead *to no purpoſe.*

* P. 106, 108.

ORDERS

Conceived and Publiſhed by the Lord MAIOR and Aldermen of the City of *London*, concerning the Infection of the Plague. 1665.

WHEREAS in the Reign of our late Soyereign King *James*, of Happy Memory, an Act was made for the charitable Relief and ordering of Perſons infected with the Plague; whereby Authority was given to Juſtices of Peace, Maiors, Bayliffs, and other head Officers, to appoint within their ſeveral Limits, Examiners, Searchers, Watchmen, Keepers, and Buriers for the Perſons and Places infected, and to miniſter unto them Oaths for the performance of their Offices. And the ſame Statute did alſo Authorize the giving of other Directions, as unto them for the preſent Neceſſity ſhould ſeem good in their Diſcretions. It is now upon ſpecial Conſideration, though very expedient for preventing and avoiding of Infection of Sickneſs (if it ſhall ſo pleaſe Almighty GOD)

that

that theſe Officers following be appointed, and theſe Orders hereafter duly obſerved.

Examiners to be appointed in every Pariſh.

FIRST, It is thought Requiſite, and ſo ordered, that in every Pariſh there be one, two, or more Perſons of good Sort and Credit, choſen and appointed by the Alderman, his Deputy, and Common-Council of every Ward, by the Name of Examiners, to continue in that Office the ſpace of two Months at leaſt: And if any fit Perſon ſo appointed, ſhall refuſe to undertake the ſame, the ſaid Parties ſo refuſing, to be committed to Priſon until they ſhall conform themſelves accordingly.

The Examiners Office.

THAT theſe Examiners be ſworn by the Aldermen, to enquire and learn from time to time what Houſes in every Pariſh be Viſited, and what Perſons be Sick, and of what Diſeaſes, as near as they can inform themſelves; and upon doubt in that Caſe, to command Reſtraint of Acceſs, until it appear what the Diſeaſe ſhall prove: And if they find any Perſon ſick of the Infection, to give order to the Conſtable that the Houſe be ſhut up; and if the Conſtable ſhall be found Remiſs or Negligent, to give preſent Notice thereof to the Alderman of the Ward.

Watchmen.

THAT to every infected Houſe there be appointed two Watchmen, one for every Day, and the other for the Night: And that theſe Watchmen have a ſpecial care that no Perſon go in or out of ſuch infected Houſes, whereof they have the Charge,

Charge, upon pain of ſevere Puniſhment. And the ſaid Watchman to do ſuch further Offices as the ſick Houſe ſhall need and require: And if the Watchman be ſent upon any Buſineſs, to lock up the Houſe, and take the Key with him: And the Watchman by Day to attend until ten of the Clock at Night: And the Watchman by Night until ſix in the Morning.

Searchers.

THAT there be a ſpecial care to appoint Women-Searchers in every Pariſh, ſuch as are of honeſt Reputation, and of the beſt Sort as can be got in this kind: And theſe to be ſworn to make due Search, and true Report to the utmoſt of their Knowledge, whether the Perſons whoſe Bodies they are appointed to Search, do die of the Infection, or of what other Diſeaſes, as near as they can. And that the Phyſicians who ſhall be appointed for Cure and Prevention of the Infection, do call before them the ſaid Searchers, who are or ſhall be appointed for the ſeveral Pariſhes under their reſpective Cares, to the end they may conſider whether they are fitly qualified for that Employment; and charge them from time to time as they ſhall ſee Cauſe, if they appear defective in their Duties.

That no Searcher during this time of Viſitation, be permitted to uſe any publick Work or Employment, or keep any Shop or Stall, or be employed as a Landreſs, or in any other common Employment whatſoever.

Chirurgeons.

FOR better aſſiſtance of the Searchers, for as much as there hath been heretofore great Abuſe in miſreporting the Diſeaſe, to the further ſpreading of the Infection: It is therefore ordered, that

there be choſen and appointed able and diſcreet Chirurgeons, beſides thoſe that do already belong to the *Peſt-houſe*: Amongſt whom the City and Liberties to be quartered as the places lie moſt apt and convenient; and every of theſe to have one Quarter for his Limit: and the ſaid Chirurgeons in every of their Limits to join with the Searchers for the View of the Body, to the end there may be a true Report made of the Diſeaſe.

And further, that the ſaid Chirurgeons ſhall viſit and ſearch ſuch like Perſons as ſhall either ſend for them, or be named and directed unto them, by the Examiners of every Pariſh, and inform themſelves of the Diſeaſe of the ſaid Parties.

And foraſmuch as the ſaid Chirurgeons are to be ſequeſtred from all other Cures, and kept only to this Diſeaſe of the Infection; It is ordered, That every of the ſaid Chirurgeons ſhall have Twelvepence a Body ſearched by them, to be paid out of the Goods of the Party ſearched, if he be able, or otherwiſe by the Pariſh.

Nurſe-keepers.

IF any Nurſe-keepers ſhall remove her ſelf out of any infected Houſe before twenty eight Days after the Deceaſe of any Perſon dying of the Infection, the Houſe to which the ſaid Nurſe-keeper doth ſo remove her ſelf, ſhall be ſhut up until the ſaid twenty eight Days be expired.

ORDERS concerning infected Houſes, and Perſons ſick of the Plague.

Notice to be given of the Sickneſs.

THE Maſter of every Houſe, as ſoon as any one in his Houſe complaineth, either of Botch, or Purple, or Swelling in any part of his Body, or falleth otherwiſe dangerouſly Sick, without apparent Cauſe of ſome other Diſeaſe, ſhall give knowledge thereof to the Examiner of Health within two Hours after the ſaid Sign ſhall appear.

Sequeſtration of the Sick.

AS ſoon as any Man ſhall be found by this Examiner, Chirurgeon or Searcher to be ſick of the Plague, he ſhall the ſame Night be ſequeſtred in the ſame Houſe. And in caſe he be ſo ſequeſtred, then though he afterwards die not, the Houſe wherein he ſickned ſhall be ſhut up for a Month, after the uſe of the due Preſervatives taken by the reſt.

Airing the Stuff.

FOR Sequeſtration of the Goods and Stuff of the Infected, their Bedding, and Apparel, and Hangings of Chambers, muſt be well aired with Fire, and ſuch Perfumes as are requiſite within the infected Houſe, before they be taken again to uſe: This to be done by the Appointment of the Examiner.

Shutting up of the Houſe.

IF any Perſon ſhall have viſited any Man, known to be infected of the Plague, or entered willingly into any known infected Houſe, being not allowed: The Houſe wherein he inhabiteth, ſhall be ſhut up for certain Days by the Examiners Direction.

None to be removed out of infected Houſes, but, &c.

ITEM, That none be removed out of the Houſe where he falleth ſick of the Infection, into any other Houſe in the City, (except it be to the *Peſt-Houſe* or a Tent, or unto ſome ſuch Houſe, which the Owner of the ſaid viſited Houſe holdeth in his own Hands, and occupieth by his own Servants) and ſo as Security be given to the Pariſh whither ſuch Remove is made, that the Attendance and Charge about the ſaid viſited Perſons ſhall be obſerved and charged in all the Particularities before expreſſed, without any Coſt of that Pariſh, to which any ſuch Remove ſhall happen to be made, and this Remove to be done by Night: And it ſhall be lawful to any Perſon that hath two Houſes, to remove either his ſound or his infected People to his ſpare Houſe at his choice, ſo as if he ſend away firſt his Sound, he may not after ſend thither the Sick, nor again unto the Sick the Sound. And that the ſame which he ſendeth, be for one Week at the leaſt ſhut up and ſecluded from Company for fear of ſome Infection, at the firſt not appearing.

Burial of the Dead.

THAT the Burial of the Dead by this Viſitation, be at moſt convenient Hours, always either before Sun-riſing, or after Sun-ſetting, with the Privity of the Churchwardens or Conſtable, and not

otherwiſe; and that no Neighbours nor Friends be ſuffered to accompany the Coarſe to Church, or to enter the Houſe viſited, upon pain of having his Houſe ſhut up, or be impriſoned.

And that no Corps dying of Infection ſhall be buried, or remain in any Church in time of Common-Prayer, Sermon, or Lecture. And that no Children be ſuffered at time of burial of any Crops in any Church, Church-yard, or Burying-place to come near the Corps, Coffin, or Grave. And that all the Graves ſhall be at leaſt ſix Foot deep.

And further, all publick Aſſemblies at other Burials are to be forborn during the Continuance of this Viſitation.

No infected Stuff to be uttered.

THAT no Clothes, Stuff, Bedding or Garments be ſuffered to be carried or conveyed out of any infected Houſes, and that the Criers and Carriers abroad of Bedding or old Apparel to be ſold or pawned, be utterly prohibited and reſtrained, and no Brokers of Bedding or old Apparel be permitted to make any outward Shew, or hang forth on their Stalls, Shopboards or Windows towards any Street, Lane, Common-way or Paſſage, any old Bedding or Apparel to be ſold, upon pain of Impriſonment. And if any Broker or other Perſon ſhall buy any Bedding, Apparel, or other Stuff out of any infected Houſe, within two Months after the Infection hath been there, his Houſe ſhall be ſhut up as Infected, and ſo ſhall continue ſhut up twenty Days at the leaſt.

No Perſon to be conveyed out of any infected Houſe.

IF any Perſon viſited do fortune by negligent looking unto, or by any other Means, to come, or be conveyed from a Place infected, to any other Place,

Place, the Pariſh from whence ſuch Party hath come or been conveyed, upon notice thereof given, ſhall at their Charge cauſe the ſaid Party ſo viſited and eſcaped, to be carried and brought back again by Night, and the Parties in this caſe offending, to be puniſhed at the Direction of the Alderman of the Ward; and the Houſe of the Receiver of ſuch viſited Perſon, to be ſhut up for twenty Days.

Every viſited Houſe to be marked.

THAT every Houſe viſited, be marked with a red Croſs of a Foot long, in the middle of the Door, evident to be ſeen, and with theſe uſual printed Words, that is to ſay, *Lord have Mercy upon us*, to be ſet cloſe over the ſame Croſs, there to continue until lawful opening of the ſame Houſe.

Every viſited Houſe to be watched.

THAT the Conſtables ſee every Houſe ſhut up, and to be attended with Watchmen, which may keep them in, and miniſter Neceſſaries unto them at their own Charges (if they be able,) or at the common Charge if they be unable: The ſhutting up to be for the ſpace of four Weeks after all be whole.

That preciſe Order be taken that the Searchers, Chirurgeons, Keepers and Buriers are not to paſs the Streets without holding a red Rod or Wand of three Foot in length in their Hands, open and evident to be ſeen, and are not to go into any other Houſe then into their own, or into that whereunto they are directed or ſent for; but to forbear and abſtain from Company, eſpecially when they have been lately uſed in any ſuch Buſineſs or Attendance.

Inmates.

Inmates.

THAT where ſeveral Inmates are in one and the ſame Houſe, and any Perſon in that Houſe happen to be Infected; no other Perſon or Family of ſuch Houſe ſhall be ſuffered to remove him or themſelves without a Certificate from the Examiners of Health of that Pariſh; or in default thereof, the Houſe whither he or they ſo remove, ſhall be ſhut up as in caſe of Viſitation.

Hackney-Coaches.

THAT care be taken of Hackney-Coachmen, that they may not (as ſome of them have been obſerved to do) after carrying of infected Perſons to the *Peſt-Houſe*, and other Places, be admitted to common uſe, till their Coaches be well aired, and have ſtood unemployed by the ſpace of five or ſix Days after ſuch Service.

ORDERS for cleanſing and keeping of the Streets ſweet.

The Streets to be kept clean.

FIRST, it is thought neceſſary, and ſo ordered, that every Houſholder do cauſe the Street to be daily pared before his Door, and ſo to keep it clean ſwept all the Week long.

That Rakers take it from out the Houſes.

THAT the Sweeping and Filth of Houſes be daily carried away by the Rakers, and that the Raker ſhall give notice of his coming, by the blowing of a Horn, as heretofore hath been done.

Layſtalls to be made far off from the City.

THAT the Layſtalls be removed as far as may be out of the City, and common Paſſages, and that no Nightman or other be ſuffered to empty a Vault into any Garden near about the City.

Care to be had of unwholſome Fiſh or Fleſh, and of muſty Corn.

THAT ſpecial care be taken, that no ſtinking Fiſh, or unwholſome Fleſh, or muſty Corn, or other corrupt Fruits, of what ſort ſoever be ſuffered to be ſold about the City, or any part of the ſame.

That the Brewers and Tipling-houſes be looked unto, for muſty and unwholſome Casks.

That no Hogs, Dogs, or Cats, or tame Pigeons, or Conies, be ſuffered to be kept within any part of the City, or any Swine to be, or ſtray in the Streets or Lanes, but that ſuch Swine be impounded by the Beadle or any other Officer, and the Owner puniſhed according to Act of Common-Council, and that the Dogs be killed by the Dog-killers appointed for that purpoſe.

ORDERS concerning loose Persons and idle Assemblies.

Beggers.

FOrasmuch as nothing is more complained of, than the multitude of Rogues and wandering Beggers, that swarm in every place about the City, being a great cause of the spreading of the Infection, and will not be avoided, notwithstanding any Order that hath been given to the contrary: It is therefore now ordered, that such Constables, and others, whom this matter may any way concern, do take special care that no wandering Begger be suffered in the Streets of this City, in any fashion or manner whatsoever, upon the Penalty provided by the Law to be duly and severely executed upon them.

Plays.

THAT all Plays, Bear-baitings, Games, singing of Ballads, Buckler-play, or such like Causes of Assemblies of People, be utterly prohibited, and the Parties offending, severely punished by every Alderman in his Ward.

Feasting Prohibited.

THAT all publick Feasting, and particularly by the Companies of this City, and Dinners at Taverns, Alehouses, and other Places of common Entertainment be forborn till further Order and Allowance,

lowance; and that the Money thereby ſpared, be preſerved and employed for the Benefit and Relief of the Poor viſited with the Infection.

Tipling-Houſes.

THAT diſorderly Tipling in Taverns, Ale-houſes, Coffee-houſes, and Cellars be ſeverely looked unto, as the common Sin of this Time, and greateſt occaſion of diſperſing the Plague. And that no Company or Perſon be ſuffered to remain or come into any Tavern, Ale-houſe, or Coffee-houſe to drink after nine of the Clock in the Evening, according to the ancient Law and Cuſtom of this City, upon the Penalties ordained in that behalf.

And for the better Execution of theſe Orders, and ſuch other Rules and Directions as upon further conſideration ſhall be found needful; It is ordered and enjoined that the Aldermen, Deputies, and Common-Council-men ſhall meet together weekly, once, twice, thrice, or oftner, (as cauſe ſhall require) at ſome one general Place accuſtomed in their reſpective Wards (being clear from Infection of the Plague) to conſult how the ſaid Orders may be duly put in execution; not intending that any, dwelling in or near places infected, ſhall come to the ſaid Meetings, whils their coming may be doubtful. And the ſaid Aldermen, and Deputies, and Common-Council-men, in their ſeveral Wards may put in execution any other good Orders that by them at their ſaid Meetings ſhall be conceived and deviſed, for Preſervation of His Majeſty's Subjects from the Infection.

AN

AN ACCOUNT OF THE First RISE, PROGRESS, SYMPTOMS, and CURE OF THE PLAGUE.

Being the Substance of a Letter from Dr. *Hodges* to a Person of Quality.

SIR,

YOUR candid Acceptance of the Observations which I have made on this *Pest*, is a most prevalent Argument to encourage the Communication of them in answer to your Desire.

To omit therefore all those most obvious Notions of the *Pest* in general, occurring in every Author writing on that Subject, I shall confine my self to a particular Disquisition of the peculiar Nature of this *Plague*, as severe as any recorded in our Annals.

LONDON

LONDON *ſeldom free from ſome Malignant Diſeaſe.*

That *London* or other populous Places, are ſeldom free from Malignant and Peſtilential Diſeaſes, is confirmed by the long Experience of able Phyſicians, who find that Humours upon ſeveral Occaſions acquire a venenate Quality, and hereupon prove moſt Pernicious.

The higheſt degree of Malignity flowing from the Putrefaction of congeſted Humours, however it may be moſt fatal to the Body wherein it was produced, being yet but the Effect of a private Cauſe, is limited at moſt to an hereditary Propagation, and cannot be imagined the Original of Epidemical Diſeaſes, eſpecially of the *Peſt*, whoſe Original is adequate to its Effects: But in regard the Cauſe of the *Plague* is moſt myſterious, and not yet hitherto plainly diſcovered, moſt Writers after a diſappointment in their ſcrutining the Series of natural Cauſes, do betake themſelves to Supernatural, and acknowledge a τὸ Θεῖον in this Diſeaſe.

Amongſt Natural Cauſes, the Conjunctions of ſome Planets, Eclipſes, Comets, and ſuch like Appearances in the Heavens, are by many accuſed as the Authors of the *Plague*, and upon this Account, ſome addicted to Aſtrology, obſerving ſuch Appearances the foregoing Year, have confidently aſſerted that our *Peſt* was the Iſſue of thoſe malevolent Influences.

The Original of the Plague *in* 1665.

After a moſt ſtrict and ſerious Inquiry, by undoubted Teſtimonies, I find that this *Peſt* was communicated to us from the *Netherlands* by way of Contagion; and if moſt probable Relations deceive me not, it came

from

from *Smyrna* to *Holland* in a parcel of infected Goods: Whether it began there, or in any other Place, being unresolved, I shall not entangle my self in a conjectural Discussion of its Cause, or give a tedious Narrative of the Nature and Effects of *Pests* in those hot Countries; give me leave to hint, that the same *Pest* grassant in divers Regions of a different Temperature, may so much vary in its *Phœnomena*, that that it may seem totally changed.

The Plague *Complicated with other Diseases.*

Before I proceed, I must Advertise, that the *Pest* doth Complicate with most Maladies which happen during its Grassancy, especially such as are Contagious, every little Disorder at such times turning to the *Plague*, and infectious Diseases more nearly combining, and symbolizing with it: Hence I collect, that the Scorbute being Popular and Epidemical in *Holland*, the *Pest* when it fell in with it, did very much partake of its Nature, which afterwards invading this Kingdom, gave ample Testimony by its Symptoms of this Association.

No such Thing as Insects in the Air.

As I have designedly wav'd at present to deliver my Theory concerning this *Pest*, so I upon the same Account do forbear to intermeddle with the Hypotheses of other; but because the Learned *Kircher*'s late Experiments have put most inquisitive Searchers into sensible Truths, upon the quest to discover that animated Matter in the Air, mentioned in his Treatise of the *Pest*, I shall transiently deliver my Observations touching this Particular: I must ingeniously confess, that notwithstanding my most careful and industrious Attempts by all means likely to promote the Discovery of such Matter, and that I have had

had as good Opportunities for this Purpoſe, as any Phyſician; it hath not yet been my Happineſs (if ſuch minute Inſects cauſed this *Peſt*,) to diſcern them, neither have I hitherto by the Information of credible Teſtimonies, received Satisfaction in this Point; whereupon I infer, that in regard *Peſts* are of a different Nature, though I allow that famous Author's Experiments in that *Plague* at *Rome*, yet it follows not that ours was cauſed by the like Production of Worms or Inſects, as ſome have rather fancied than demonſtrated.

The Conſequences of Putrefaction are ſo well known by an ordinary Inſpection into the Tranſactions of Nature, that the Production of Worms and various Inſects upon this account, may not be rightly judged a new Diſcovery, conſidering eſpecially, that malignant Diſeaſes do not leſs than the *Plague*, evidence Putrefaction by ſuch Products: Indeed amongſt all that vaſt Number I converſed with during Viſitation, I noted very few to have either vomited Worms, or by unerring Symptoms to have given an Indication of verminous Matter lodged in any part of their Bodies; I only had a Relation of one, who in vomiting threw up a ſtrange figured Inſect, which appeared very fierce, and even aſſaulted ſuch as were buſie to obſerve it; whereupon it was cruſhed by a rude Hand, ſo that its Shape is not very diſcernible.

The primary Cauſe of the Plague.

Since that the Nature of this *Peſt*, in Relation to its primary Cauſe is moſt obſcure, we cannot more ſurely arrive at the Knowledge of it, than by the Diſcoveries it makes of it ſelf in Propagation: When therefore I do well ponder the wonderful Energy of Peſtilential Effluviums, which can inſtantaneouſly imprint indelible Characters on Bodies before

fore ſound and healthful, and conform them to the like Efficacy in contagious Communications, I am induced to think that its Principles are chiefly ſaline, which appears by its Activity and Power; I need not produce Examples to illuſtrate the inexpreſſible Vigor of theſe Ferments, it being well known that many have dy'd without the leaſt Senſe of Contagion or Apprehenſion of Illneſs thereby.

Of its Invaſion.

I come in the next Place to the Manner of the *Peſts* Invaſion, which is unanimouſly agreed on to be by Contagion, *viz.* When venenate Expirations are tranſmitted from infectious Bodies to others working a like Change and Alteration in them; whereupon I conclude, that no Perſon is ſeiz'd with the *Plague* except he receives into his Body theſe Peſtilential Effluxes, which however they do more effectually infect by how much nearer the Bodies are, yet it is not to be doubted but that at a very conſiderable Diſtance where no Perſon is ſick, theſe moſt malignant Corpuſcles being carried in the Motion of the Air, may ſo preſerve their Venom, as to ſurprize ſuch Bodies amidſt their greateſt Securities; and I am apt to think that ſuch Effects are oft-times appropriated to Imagination, the Operations of which can eaſily ferment the Juices of the Body, and raiſe Symptoms not unlike thoſe of the *Peſt*.

A Confutation of thoſe who would believe it not contagious.

Notwithſtanding that Infection is ſo apparent in the *Peſt*, yet ſome have lately in their Diſcourſes and Pamphlets, argued that it is not contagious, ſuch Perſons deſerve rather the Magiſtrates Cenſure than my Refutation: The Order publiſhed by

Queen *Elizabeth* was in thoſe Days the moſt proper Expedient to ſuppreſs that Opinion, which is not otherwiſe now than by Authority to be ſilenced: theſe ground their Hypotheſes upon the Eſcape of ſome Perſons who converſe with the infected; but this Proof is not admittable as ſufficient, becauſe there are very many Cauſes why ſuch Bodies are not equally obnoxious to Contagion as others; for beſides the particular Providence of God, the Security of ſuch Perſons may be attributed to the Shape of their Pores not admitting peſtilential Atoms of a diſproportion'd Figure, or Vigour of the Spirits to expel this Enemy before he can fix in their Bodies; certainly ſuch Perſons might as rationally affirm that Bullets will not wound and kill, becauſe ſome in the hotteſt Battles amidſt Showers of ſmall Shot walk untouch'd by any of them, when as theſe eſcape rather upon the Account of the various happy Poſtures they are in during the Charge, than their Fancy of being Shot-free.

Theſe infectious Irradiations flowing from Bodies inflam'd with the *Peſt*, as they conſtantly iſſue out by Tranſpiration, and other more open Paſſages, ſo they diffuſe their Malignity accordingly as they are more or leſs ſubtile and ſpiritual: If therefore the Snuff of a Candle, which emits a groſs and viſible Fume, can in few Moments ſo taint the circumambient Air in a large Room, ſo as to render it moſt offenſive to our Smell; certainly Peſtilential Exhalations by very many Degrees more fine and ſubtile, can inſenſibly and beyond ſuch narrow Limits ſpread their Poiſon, corrupting the Air, and making it pernicious to Bodies diſpos'd to receive ſuch Impreſſions. Touching the Steam of infected Bodies. I confeſs that when Buboes are opened, Carbuncles caſt off their Eſchar, the Peſtilential Emanations being imbodied in groſſer Vapours iſſuing from ſuch Sores, may poſſible be hereupon ſenſible to the Noſe,

Noſe, as in opening other Impoſthumes, and dreſſing common ſordid Ulcers is evident: Hence it is that ſome have perceiv'd the Moment of their Seizure, which Scent they could not otherwiſe expreſs, than by a cadaverous, and as it were a ſuffocating Scench; but I may confidently aver, that not one in two hundred hath been apprehenſive by Scent of the Infection, the venate Particles communicating their Malignity in a way imperceptible to our Senſes.

How the Peſtilential Effluvia operate on the Body.

How theſe Peſtilential Effluxes do operate on Man's Body, comes next under Conſideration; ſuppoſing that the Infection hath newly inſinuated it ſelf, the Blood and Juices do immediately receive the Alarum as being to undergo the firſt Aſſault; the Blood in ſome, by the deleterious Quality of the Poiſon, in few Moments is mortify'd, not unlike what happens in the Death of ſuch who are kill'd by Lightning; in others, the Blood is forthwith put into a Fermentation, either higher or lower, according to the State of the Blood before Infection, or the Condition and Degree of the Contagion, on which alſo depends the Depuration of the Blood producing Blains, Buboes, and Carbuncles, and ſuch Patients, except ſomething accidentally intervenes to contraindicate, for the moſt part eſcape, but moſt commonly in this Fermentation the Blood coagulates in fewer or more Veſſels, and according to the Diſſolution and Diſcharge of theſe Grumous Parts before further Putrefaction, the Condition of ſuch Perſons is more ſecure or dangerous, if the Coagulation encreaſes, a Period at length is put to the Blood's Circulation: Laſtly, the Blood doth ſometimes ſuffer a Fuſion, for when the ſulphureous Parts are conſumed, the Peſtilential Tincture proves a Diſſolvent, and de-

ſtroys the Fibres of the Blood, not only by way of Liquation, making it moſt fluid, but corrupting its ſaline Particles. I have obſerved, that ſuch Blood in Hemorrhages would not coagulate, but remained like a tinctured Ichor; the Reduction of ſuch Blood to its former State being impoſſible, the Caſe of ſuch Patients was moſt deſperate, Medicines affording not the leaſt Eaſe or Relief: The nervous Liquor did alſo ſhare in this common Calamity, and according to its quality, ſuffered as great and many Alterations as the Blood.

Of the Propagation of the Diſeaſe.

Before I proceed to the Symptoms of this Diſtemper, it may not ſeem impertinent tranſiently to give ſome remarkable Obſervations which occurred in the Propagation of this Diſeaſe; as, that the Infected were commonly ſeized after the ſame manner, and generally had the like iſſue, in reſpect of a Recovery or Death, as thoſe from whom they took the Contagion, except any thing happened extraordinary in the Caſe of one more than the other; ſo that the Effects of the *Plague*, not only in relation to the number of Buboes, Blains or Carbuncles, but the Part and Place, did abundantly evince its peculiar and ſtrange Deſignation.

That Perſons may be infected more than once.

Furthermore, that Opinion that the *Peſt* invades no Perſon a ſecond time, if his Sores at firſt ſufficiently diſcharged purulent Matter, is now plainly confuted by too many Experiments during this ſad Viſitation: I have known many who altho' all things ſucceeded well the firſt and ſecond time, and each Cure was perfected, yet the third Seizure, upon the account of a new Infection, and not a Re-

lapse, hath proved fatal to them: Some this last Year fell the fifth, others the sixth time, being before very well recovered. Each of these Invasions, I suppose, was not only from an higher Degree of Malignity, but a diverse Complication of the *Pest*; besides, Nature being much weakened by preceding Assaults, was thereupon more unable to make her Defence.

The Symptoms of the Plague.

The Symptoms of this *Pest* were many; but I shall content myself to set down such as were most common and notorious: Most Persons upon their first Invasion by the Sickness, perceived a Chilness to creep on them, which produced in very short space a Shivering not unlike the cold Fit of an Ague; which Shivering was doubtless an Effect of the *Pestilential* Ferment insinuating itself into the Blood and Juices of the Body, and rendring them either sharp, pungitive, or so corrupt by its Venerosity, that hereupon there happens a Vellication of the nervous Parts, whence proceeded convulsive Motions; soon after this, Horror and Shaking followed a Nauseousness, and strong Inclinations to vomit, with a great Oppression, and seeming Fullness of the Stomach, occasioned by the Poison irritating the Ventricle, which being a nervous Part, is and thereupon most sensible of what will prove so injurious to it; the *Pest* did sometimes seat itself in the Stomach, more eminently shewing itself there in Carbuncles and Mortifications; a violent and intolerable Head-ach next succeeded, by reason of the Blood's Tumultuousness and Ebullition: hereupon some fell into a Frenzy, and others became soporose and stupid, according to the quality and nature of the Malignity; afterwards a Fever began to discover itself, without which no Person escaped during

this Viſitation; when therefore the Blood was throughly impregnated with the *Peſtilential* Ferment, then the Blood fermented, and the OEconomy of the Body was violated, all Parts both internal and external, extreamly ſuffering and expreſſing their ſeveral Conditions in this extream Agony, upon the account either of Idiopathy or Sympathy.

Of the Fever.

I ſhall not here diſpute, whether the true *Peſt* is always accompanied with a Fever; I conceive that in ſome *Peſts*, as alſo in the higheſt Degree of *this*, the ſeveral Parts of the Blood have inſtantaneouſly been ſeparated, there being no Time for any Ebullition: But ſince that I undertake only to deliver my own Obſervations, I muſt ingenuouſly confeſs, that during this *Peſt* (except in the caſe of ſuch who ſuddenly died) I met not with any one Patient free from a Fever, which in ſome was more ſlow and occult, in others peracute and notoriouſly apparent, as the Blood did more or leſs abound with ſulphureous Particles, apt to kindle and be inflamed; and more particularly I noted, that thoſe who were over-run with the Scorbute, and afterwards took the Infection of the *Plague*, had a more obſcure and remiſs Fever, ſo as it ſeemed many times very doubtful whether they laboured of any or no; which I cannot attribute to any thing elſe than to the State of their Blood, by reaſon of its much abounding with a fixed Salt: The like Aſſertion will hold true of the ſeveral other Defects in the Blood. In relation to the Paroxiſms which were obſerved in this Fever, 'tis moſt certain that generally there was ſome kind of Remiſſion, ſo as that the Patients could eaſily find their Condition altered thereby; but theſe Fits were altogether irregular and uncertain, however they ſeemed in ſome much to reſemble a double Tertian.

Of Faintneſs and Palpitations of the Heart.

So ſoon as this Fever began to appear, ſtrange Faintneſs ſeized the Patient, which was ſeconded by moſt violent Palpitations of the Heart; and hereupon many have ſuſpected that the *Peſt*, by a peculiar Diſpoſition, moſt vigorouſly bends all its Strength to ſtorm the Heart, which is the moſt royal Fort; but ſince that we are well aſſured that the Heart doth principally ſuffer by reaſon of this heterogeneal Matter mixed with Blood, and circulating with it through this noble Part, I cannot think that the Heart is otherwiſe injured, than in being hindered in its Office of animating and inflaming the Blood, by its innate Ferment, to perform its appointed Stage of Circulation.

Of the Laſſitude.

Here I might particularly take notice of that ſtrange Laſſitude which was very obſervable in moſt affected with this Scorbutical *Peſt*, as well by reaſon of the Diſtention of the Veſſels, as the immediate Mixture of the Malignity with the ſerous Humours abounding in ſuch Bodies; but I ſhall not any longer inſiſt on the Symptoms which are common in Peſtilential Fevers, but deſcend to thoſe Diagnoſticks which moſt peculiarly diſcover the *Peſt*, as Blains, Buboes, Carbuncles and Diſcolorations, vulgarly called Tokens: Of which briefly in their Order.

Of the Blains.

Blains are Puſtles, or rather Bliſters, ſometimes greater or ſometimes leſs; and for number fewer or more, according to the Quantity or Quality of the Peſtilential Matter ſegregated from the Blood, and

other

other Liquors of the Body, by their Fermentation; theſe were obſcurely incircled, and coloured according to the ſerous Humour either flowing to, or diſcharged upon thoſe Parts where they appeared; but as no Place could plead Exemption, ſo thoſe Parts were moſt ſubject to theſe Blains which did lie neareſt to this poiſonous Humour, when it was forced out; the Liquor contained in theſe Bliſters was of the ſame nature with that which produced Carbuncles, but more dilated and diſperſed; wherefore the *Peſt* was rightly judged not ſo dangerous where only Blains were diſcovered.

Of the Buboes.

Buboes are Tumours of the Glandules; if under the Ear, they are called Parotides; others happen under the Arms, and in the Groin; Peſtilential Matter in Circulation with the Blood being retained in theſe Glandules, whereby they are tumified and inflamed: That ſome Perſons without any Senſe either of the Contagion, or any Illneſs by it, have complained of theſe Tumours, muſt be aſcribed to the Mildneſs of the Malignity, having before upon others ſpent its Virulency; but moſt commonly theſe Buboes were an Effect of the ſecond Sweat, promoted by proper Alexipharmical Remedies, and ſuch Riſings gave hope of the Patient's Recovery; ſome of theſe Tumours were indolent and hard, continuing ſo many Months, notwithſtanding Means either to diſcuſs or ſuppurate them; and when theſe were unadviſedly opened by Inciſion, nothing elſe but an Ichor guſhed forth, and the Part wounded was very apt to mortify: but theſe Riſings were generally ſo painful, that moſt could not endure the fierce and frequent Lancinations, and the extream Burning they felt until the time of Suppuration approached, which upon this account was haſtened by ſuitable Applications

of

of Cataplasms and Plaisters: The Number of these Buboes was not certain, some had two, others three, many four; neither was their Bigness limited, the Risings in some being very large, so as to equal an Half-penny Loaf, in others not exceeding an Hen's Egg; very many of these Tumors were discussed, if the Patient at first submitted to effectual Sweats; and if afterwards they encreased, great Care was taken to further their Enlargement, and to break them, the Fever usually going off and declining as these Tumors ripened, and were fitted for Aperion.

Of the Carbuncles.

A Carbuncle is a Pestilential Sore, appearing at first with a very small Pustle, and a Circle about it of a red flaming Colour; which Pustle either opening, or rather the Liquor in it being spent by the extream Heat of the adjacent Part, soon hardens and grows crusty, the incompassing Inflammation spreading it self, and by reason of the corrosive Quality of the Humour cauterizing that Place where it fixes; I have seen Carbuncles in most Parts of the Body, which proved more or less dangerous in respect of the Part affected, and the Degree of the Malignity: I was call'd to one Patient who had a Carbuncle within two or three Fingers breadth of a Bubo in the Groin, though they were differently handled in relation to the Cure, yet the Business succeeded very well; also one recovered when there was a large Carbuncle directly opposite to the Heart; a third with one in her Breast, at the same time she gave suck, and the Child discover'd no other Infirmity than a Loosness during his Mother's Cure; another was afflicted with a large Carbuncle very near the Bottom of the Stomach, and she lived until Cicatrization, but then the Malignity retiring within, took her away.

Of their Magniture.

Carbuncles are ſometimes very large; I ſaw one on the Thigh above two hands Breadth with a large Bliſter on it, which being open'd by the Chirurgeon, and Scarification made where the Mortification did begin, the Patient expired under this Operation; but moſt commonly theſe Carbuncles do not exceed the Breadth of three or four Fingers; after few Hours the Skin ſhrivels into a Cruſtineſs of a duskiſh or browniſh Colour: At certain Times, and in ſome eſpecially ſcorbutical Bodies, theſe Carbuncles did mortify, and except timely Care was taken by Immargination, Scarifications or Applications of actual Cauteries, the Gangreen in few Hours overſpread that Part, and deſtroyed the Patient; this moſt ſaline corroſive Humour was not eaſily and by ordinary Means brought to Digeſtion, and conſequently not without much Difficulty cured.

Of the Tokens.

Theſe Tokens are Spots upon the Skin of a diverſe Colour and Figure, proceeding from chiefly extravaſed Blood, which by reaſon of its Stagnation putrefies and produceth ſuch Mortifications, diſcolouring the Skin, ſo then thoſe Spots which are the true Tokens, are profound Mortifications cauſed by the Extinction of natural Heat upon the Account of highly prevailing Malignity, becauſe many Spots ariſing upon the Skin were only cutaneous, and ſo far impos'd on many Searchers and unskilful Viewers of them, that they declar'd them to be true Tokens: Experiment was always made upon theſe Diſcolorations by a Lancet or large Needle, to try whether that Part ſo affected was ſenſible; if not, then it was moſt apparent that ſuch Perſons had

thoſe fatal Marks upon their Bodies, which were moſt certain Forerunners of Death; but if the Patient did diſcover Senſe upon the Pricking or Inciſion, then ſuch Spots being only cutaneous, were not eſteem'd deadly.

Anatomical Obſervations have likewiſe inform'd us, that theſe Tokens have their Original and Riſe from within, and afterwards externally ſhew themſelves; which is evident, becauſe the Baſis of them is larger than their outward Appearance, and the internal Parts are found very often ſpotted when there is no Diſcoloration viſible on the Skin.

Of their Figure.

The Figure of theſe Tokens is not always certain, but generally they are orbicularly ſhap'd, as I ſuppoſe, by the Pores, to which the extravaſated Blood moſt readily tends, and for want of Circulation fixing there, corrupts; the Pores thus clos'd up by any cold Check, the Dyaphoreſis whereupon the malignant Corpuſcles being retain'd in the Body, their Attempt to ſally out proves unſucceſsful, ſo that they cauſe a very great Putrefaction in the Parts where they ſettle; and ſoon after, if a ſpeedy Vent is not given, theſe Tokens ſtraitways appear, foreſhewing the Event of the Diſtemper.

Size.

Theſe Tokens are not of one Size or Bigneſs, ſome being broader than a ſingle Penny, others at firſt very ſmall, by degrees enlarging and ſpreading themſelves; to the Touch they ſeem hard, not unlike little Kernels under the Skin, the Superficies being ſmooth; yet I ſaw one where theſe Tokens put out with little Bliſters upon them: Very many were puzzled to diſtinguiſh aright between theſe Marks

and the *Petechiæ Peſtilentiales*, or Peſtilential Appearances in Spotted Fevers, as alſo Scorbutical Spots frequently interſpers'd among them: I have taken notice of many Miſtakes upon both theſe Accounts.

Colour.

The Colour of the Tokens was various, in ſome reddiſh, with a Circle inclining towards a Blue, in others they repreſented a faint Blue, the Circle being blackiſh; many were of a browniſh dusky Colour, like Ruſt of Iron or Moles in ſome Bodies; that the reddiſh and blackiſh Tokens were from Blood, is moſt evident, but whether the others might not proceed from the nervous Liquor extravaſated, concreted, and mortify'd by the Malignity, is more doubtful; when I aſſay'd to prove them, I found them almoſt impenetrable.

Situation.

Although no Part of Man's Body is ſecure from theſe moſt Peſtilential Marks, yet the Neck, Breaſt, Back and Thighs are moſt apt to them, but theſe things are ſo vulgar that I may very well ſpare my Pains in giving any further Account: That which did ſeem at firſt moſt ſtrange to me, was, that many Perſons who had continu'd in a Delirium throughout their Sickneſs, ſo ſoon as the Tokens appear'd, they came to themſelves, and apprehended that they were in an hopeful and recovering Condition. I might here relate two eminent Stories, which I can only without Circumſtances mention; one was of a Maid whoſe Temper ſeem'd good, her Pulſe equal and ſtrong, her Senſes were perfect at that time when I was call'd to ſee her; ſhe complain'd of no Diſorder or Pain, and concluded her ſelf ſecure; but when I view'd her Breaſt, and diſcover'd very

very many Tokens, I left her with a Prognoſtick, and within two or three Hours ſhe died: Not long after I viſited an ancient Woman, and found her at Dinner with a Chicken before her, on which ſhe fed greedily, and had eaten half before I came; after a due Enquiry into her Caſe, finding no Satisfaction either from her Pulſe or Temper, I ſearching her Breaſt, obſerv'd the Tokens, and ſhe expired within one or two Hours. That the Tokens do ſometimes appear after Death, is to be attributed to the high Ferment in the Peſtilential Matter, which vainly ſeeking to force its way through the Skin, imprints there indelible Characters of its exceſſive Malignity.

What is often mention'd in moſt Authors concerning the Flexibleneſs of Bodies kill'd by the *Peſtilence*, hath not been confirm'd in this *Plague*; for although ſuch Bodies were not ſo ſoon rigid and ſtiff as thoſe which dy'd of chronical or common acute Diſeaſes, yet due Time being allow'd, or if the Bodies were expos'd to the cold Air, there appeared no Difference between them and others.

The Prognoſticks of the Plague.

The Prognoſticks in this *Peſt* were very fallacious; for oft-times when all things preſented fair, and the Patient ſeem'd paſt Danger, on a ſudden the Caſe was alter'd by the near Approach of Death; and on the contrary, in ſome whoſe Condition upon many Accounts was judged deſperate, an unexpected Change at a dead Lift happen'd, which gave full Aſſurance of a ſpeedy Recovery; beſides, conſidering that the *Peſt* did primarily ſeat it ſelf in the Spirits, it was not eaſy to determine poſitively the Succeſs of their Conteſt, for the Spirits which for a while were almoſt ſuffocated and extinguiſh'd, being almoſt overpower'd with the Peſtilential Venom, did frequently

frequently, like the Fire for ſome time ſuppreſſed, break out into an aſpiring Flame, and thereby evidence their Victory; and many times the Spirits, which maintained the Combate very well the firſt Charge, by the ſecond Onſet were utterly defeated; ſo that the Tranſactions of the Spirits are not ſo certainly foreſeen as the Progreſs of Diſeaſes fixed on any internal or external Member of the Body; the beſt Prognoſtick is taken from the Strength of the Patient under a skilful Hand, directing a proper and methodical Cure.

Of the Preſervation from it.

Before I come to the Cure of the *Peſt*, I ſhall ſay ſomething touching the great Buſineſs of Preſervation from it. Nature inſtructs us that by all means poſſible we preſerve and ſafeguard ourſelves from all things prejudicial to our Lives; and Art hath moſt happily, by its Diſcoveries, furniſhed apt Remedies for this purpoſe; and the great Succeſs of proper and fit Preſervatives doth irrefragably plead from their Uſe.

Care in the firſt place muſt be taken to free the Body from ſuperfluous Humours, which may be a fit *Fomes* for the Peſtilential Ferment, this ought not to be performed by violent Catharticks, but gentle and yet effectual de-obſtructing Medicines, and then the noble Parts muſt be corroborated, their Ferments and Uſe maintained, and laſtly, the Blood kept in a due and equal Briskneſs; and hereupon all Paſſions, eſpecially Fear and Anger, are worthily cenſured by Phyſicians, as conducing much to the Introduction of the *Peſt*; a moderate and wholſome Diet muſt be cautiouſly obſerved, and no Error committed in the other things, termed non-natural; to conclude, the Society of infected Perſons is carefully to be avoided; for certainly it is an high Preſumption,

tion,

tion, that becauſe ſome Preſervatives are and have been effectual to ſecure ſome Perſons, others taking the like Antidotes, ſhould thereupon adventure into the utmoſt Danger.

The Therapeutick Part.

The Therapeutick Part comes next in order; but before I enter upon this Subject, if the Scruple made by ſome, whether the *Peſtilence* is curable, was grounded either on Authority or Reaſon, I would endeavour to remove it; for however Medicines do prove alike effectual to reſcue all infected Perſons from the Jaws of Death, Mortality amongſt People denoting the *Plague*; yet ſince that by God's Bleſſing, and the Care and Skill of experienced Phyſicians, very many recover, theſe living Teſtimonies do ſufficiently evidence the Abſurdity and great Impiety of that Suggeſtion.

Of the Intentions of Cure.

In relation to the Cure of the *Plague*, all the Intentions which offer themſelves muſt be diligently obſerved, and truly anſwered, otherwiſe no better Account can be given of Proceedings than what is produced by ignorant Nurſes, or our pretended Chymiſts. So ſoon as any Perſon finds or apprehends himſelf to be ſeized by the *Contagion*, (every little Illneſs in Time of the *Plague* being juſtly ſuſpected) 'tis adviſable that he forthwith do betake himſelf to his Bed; Beſides, when the Patient is in that Condition, Nature may more certainly ſhew the Ways ſhe deſigns to expel the Malignity, and diſcovering her Deficiencies, directs the Phyſician, who is always intent on her Motion, to ſuccour her by his Art; altho' it is found moſt convenient that the Patient ſecure himſelf in his Bed, yet 'tis not allow-

able that he ſleep until a Check is given to the Venenoſity: Indeed ſome not well adviſed finding themſelves drowſy, who perhaps were ſeized with a Stupidneſs or Dulneſs, ſignifying the worſt Quality of the *Contagion*, committed themſelves to Reſt, and little thought that by calling in the Peſtilential Matter from the Habit of the Body, and fixing it in the Brain, ſuch Sleep was only preparative to their Death.

The Uſe of Bliſters.

If then any find themſelves thus diſpoſed, they muſt be kept waking, and rouſed up by Veſicatories: Their Uſe, Number and Places, the Phyſician who is called in will adviſe: If the Patient vomits, Judgment muſt be truly made whether the Stomach is clogged and loaded with undigeſted Meat or Fruit, or ought elſe taken unſeaſonably or immoderately, that may burden it, and become a fit *Fomes* for the *Peſt*; if the Stomach ſuffers upon this account, by Carduus Poſſet-drink taken in a large Quantity with Oxymel of Squills, not aſcending much higher, it muſt be disburdened and cleanſed; but if ſuch Vomitings are only ſymptomatical, as indeed moſt were, proper Remedies muſt be directed which may ſtop thoſe Inclinations to vomit, and expel out of the Stomach that Peſtilential Matter which ſo ſtrongly irritates, reſtoring likewiſe the Ferment of the Stomach, much weakened and injured by this means; for which purpoſe I cannot too much commend the Fixed Salts of Wormwood, Carduus, Rue, Scordium, Maſterwort, *&c.* If likewiſe Symptoms appear of the poiſonous Ferment fixing in the Bowels, and a Flux hereupon happens, it is not ſafe without a moſt urgent Cauſe to uſe Cathartick, leſt a Dyſentery enſue, and the Peſtilential Matter be drawn

drawn by such Evacuations from the Circumference to the Center.

The chief Intention in the Cure.

The chief Intention in the Cure consisting in an early Expulsion of the Malignity, proper Alexipharmicks did mostly contribute to this End, which, by the expert Physicians Skill, were adapted to the Constitution and present Condition of the Patient, their Vertue and Power perfectly preventing the great Danger threatened by delay, or the use of insufficient Medicines; for altho' in the Cure of other Diseases a Progress from lower to higher and more prevalent Processes is very allowable, yet in the *Pest*, where Occasion must be taken by the Foretop, the Slip of one Opportunity being infinitely disadvantageous, all true Sons of Art imployed their utmost Abilities to select most proper SUDORIFICKS, one Dose of which might provoke a seasonable and effectual Sweat, whereby the Blood and Juices of the Body were depured and freed from that Pestilential Ferment with which they were lately imbued; and since that this Intention was chiefly to be observed, all other Directions having respect unto it, Physicians were hereupon very cautelous lest they should by any means either divert Nature from this Course, or prejudice her in such Designments; Hence it was that Phlebotomy was justly censured as a matter of dangerous Consequence in the *Pest*, by which the Fermentation of the Blood was abated, the Spirits took flight, and Nature became so debilitated, that she could no longer combate with her implacable Adversary.

Of Clyſters.

It was alſo Matter of great Deliberation to determine, whether in ſome urgent Caſes Clyſters might ſafely be adminiſtred, leſt the Poiſon of the Diſtemper ſhall take downwards, and the Diaphoreſes be thereby interrupted; of ſuch high Concernment it was to maintain a conſtant and free Tranſpiration, which every fifth or ſixth Hour, ofner or later, as there was juſt Cauſe, was to be forced by Repetitions of Remedies, mightily promoting its expected Succeſs and Benefit. And here another grand Difficulty ariſes, whether during theſe Sweats it is convenient to nouriſh the Patient? Which I ſhall thus reſolve: If by reaſon of ſuch Sweats the Patient finds his Condition to be bettered, his Appetite not much dejected, his Thirſt abated, and the Paroxiſm in declination, as alſo his Strength near ſpent, in ſuch a Caſe it is moſt adviſable that the Patient be often indulged Chicken Broth, or whatever may recruit all Loſſes of Spirits in the Encounter, and by this means that Perſon being refreſhed, will be enabled to undergo cheerfully the ſucceeding Paroxiſm, and to continue his Breathings; but if all Requiſites ſhewing the neceſſity of allowing Nouriſhment, do not concur, 'tis far better to abſtain from this Courſe, than adventure its Inconveniences.

Of the Duration of the Sweating.

The Continuance and Length of ſuch Sweats were rightly meaſured by the Patient's Relief and Sufficiency of Strength to bear them; but unleſs I ſhould ſtate the ſeveral Caſes which happened in the *Peſt*, it is impoſſible that full Directions can be given, eſpecially conſidering that Applications in Medicine altogether relate to Individuals; and therefore as there

there is a Difference in the ſame Diſeaſe ſeizing many Perſons, ſo likewiſe not only various Methods of Cure, but divers Medicines are ſubſervient to that End.

Of the pretending Chymiſts.

As to that Part of your Letter wherein you deſire Satisfaction concerning our pretended Chymiſts, I can only make you this return; that the People are now convinced of their Deſigns, their moſt admired Preparations proving altogether unſucceſsful, and their Contrivances being chiefly bent upon more ſecret Ways, and a ſhorter Cut to gain Eſtates, their intituling Medicines by ſtrange Names, as the Quinteſſence *Animæ Mundi*, Oil of the Heathen Gods, *&c.* and requiring three Pounds for a Doſe, is a trifling and ſlow way to grow rich by, when as an Eſtate may be gained by giving one little, but moſt effectual Draught.

Theſe ſcandalous Oppoſers of the *College* are now for ever ſilenced, ſince that ſo many Members of that moſt honourable Society have ventured their Lives in ſuch hot Service; their Memory will doubtleſs ſurvive Time, who died in the Diſcharge of their Duty, and their Reputation flouriſh, who (by God's Providence) eſcaped.

Worthy Sir, I am

May 8. 1666. From my Houſe in *Watlin-ſtreet*. *Your moſt faithful Servant,*

N. HODGES.

Neceſſary DIRECTIONS FOR THE *Prevention* and *Cure* OF THE PLAGUE in 1665.

With divers Remedies of ſmall Charge, by the College of Phyſicians.

I. *Doctors, Chirurgeons and Apothecaries.*

THE Church-Orders for Prayers being firſt obſerved, as in former Times, it might be deſired, that by the Government of the City there be appointed ſix or four Doctors at leaſt, who may apply themſelves to the Cure of the Infected; and that theſe Doctors be Stipendiaries to the City for their Lives; and that to each Doctor there be aſſigned *two Apothecaries, and three Chirurgeons*, who are alſo to be ſtipended by the City; that ſo due and true Care may be taken in all things, that the People periſh not without Help, and that the Infection ſpread not, while none take particular Care to reſiſt it, as in *Paris*, *Venice* and *Padua*, and many other Cities.

And

And if any Doctor, Chirurgeon or Apothecary ſtipended by the City, ſhall happen to die in the ſervice of the Attendance of the *Plague*, then their Widows ſurviving ſhall have their Penſions during their Lives.

II. *Prevention of propagating the Infection from place to place.*

AS the Proviſion already made by Authority, upon occaſion of prohibiting Perſons and Goods coming from Foreign Countries and Places infected, to be landed for Forty Days, is moſt rational, for preventing the bringing in of the Contagion from any ſuch Places; ſo it is adviſable, that ſome ſuitable Proviſion be made in relation to Perſons within the Kingdom, who may remove or travel from Places much infected, to ſound: as, That none might travel without Certificate of Health; That Perſons juſtly ſuſpected might not be ſuffered to enter ſuch Places free from Infection, but ſpeedily ſent away, or kept in ſome Houſe or Houſes ſet apart to receive ſuch Perſons (with accommodation of Neceſſaries) for Forty or Thirty Days at leaſt, till their Soundneſs might appear; and that any Goods coming from the like Places might be opened and aired, before received into Houſes free and clear.

III. *Prevention of diſperſing the Contagion amongſt Perſons.*

IT is adviſable, That all needleſs Concourſes of People be prohibited; That the Poor be relieved and ſet at work, and Beggars not ſuffered to go about; That all ſale of corrupt Proviſion for Food be reſtrained; That Streets and Houſes be as diligently and carefully as may be, kept clean; The Streets waſhed and cooled as much as may be, by the plentiful

tiful running of the Conduits and Water otherwiſe procured.

It were alſo to be wiſhed, that the Slaughter-Houſes were utterly put from out the Liberties of the City, being in themſelves very offenſive: And that Funnels in Church Vaults be conſidered of, and the depth of Graves, and the putting of Quick-Lime into them, and the infected buried without the City

IV. *To be cautelous upon any Suſpicion.*

IT is to be preſumed, becauſe every one deſireth his own Liberty, that none will give notice of any ſuſpicion of the *Plague* againſt themſelves; wherefore that muſt be the Overſeers care, upon any notice or ſuſpicion of Infection, by the help of the Doctors, Chirurgeons, Keepers or Searchers, to find out the Truth thereof, and ſo to proceed accordingly, but not to depend upon the Teſtimony of Women-Searchers alone.

V. *Directions for the Searchers.*

1. THEY are to take notice, whether there be any Swellings, Riſings, or Botch under the Ear, about the Neck, on either Side, or under the Arm-pits of either Side, or the Groins, and of its Hardneſs, and whether broken or unbroken.

2. Whether there be any Blains which may riſe in any part of the Body in the form of a Bliſter, much bigger than the Small-Pox, of a ſtraw Colour or livid Colour, which latter is the worſer; either of them hath a reddiſh Circuit, ſomething ſwollen round about it, which Circuit remains after the Bliſter is broken, encompaſſing the Sore.

3. Whether there be any Carbuncle, which is ſomething like the Blain, but more fiery and corroſive,

roſive, eaſily eating deep into the Fleſh, and ſometimes having a black Crust upon it, but always compaſſed about with a very fiery red (or livid) flat and hard Tumour, about a Finger's breadth more or leſs: This and the Blain may appear in any Part of the Body.

4. Whether there be any Tokens, which are Spots arising upon the Skin, chiefly about the Breaſt and Back, but ſometimes alſo in other Parts; their Colour is ſomething various, ſometimes more reddiſh, ſometimes inclining a little toward a faint blue, and ſometimes browniſh mix'd with blue; the red ones have often a purple Circle about them, the browniſh a reddiſh.

5. Whether the Neck and other Limbs are rigid or ſtiff, or more flexible and limber than in other dead Bodies.

VI. *The Care to be taken when a Houſe is viſited.*

THAT upon the Diſcovery of the Infection in any Houſe, there be preſently Means uſed to preſerve the Whole, as well as to cure the Infected: And that no ſick Perſon be removed out of any Houſe, tho' to another of his own, without Notice thereof to be given to the Overſeers, and to be by them approved: Or if the Whole be to be removed, that Notice be given to the Overſeers of their Remove; and that Caution be given that they ſhall not wander about till they be found.

The Houſe that is known to be infected, tho' none be dead therein, to be ſhut up, and carefully kept watched by more truſty Men than ordinary Wardens, till a Time after the Party be well recovered, and that Time to be forty Days at the leaſt, or rather remove them all immediately to the Peſt-houſes.

VII. *Cau-*

VII. *Caution about Apparel and Houſhold-Stuff.*

THat no Apparel or Houſhold-Stuff be removed, or ſold out of the infected Houſe, for ſix Months after the Infection is ceaſed in the Houſe; and that all the Brokers and inferior Criers for Apparel be reſtrained in that behalf, and ſuch Apparel or Houſhold-Stuff to be aired and fumed.

VIII. *Correction of the Air.*

FIres made in the Streets, and often with Stink-Pots, and good Fires kept in and about the Houſes of ſuch as are viſited, and their Neighbours may correct the infectious Air; as alſo frequent diſcharging of Guns.

Alſo Fumes of theſe following Materials; Roſin, Pitch, Tar, Turpentine, Frankincenſe, Myrrhe, Amber; the Woods of Juniper, Cypreſs, Cedars; the Leaves of Bays, Roſemary; to which, eſpecially to the leſs grateful ſcented, may be added ſomewhat of *Labdanum*, *Storax*, *Benzoin*, *Lignum Aloes*: One or more of theſe, as they are at Hand, or may be procured, are to be put upon Coals, and conſumed with the leaſt Flame that may be, in Rooms, Houſes, Churches, or other Places.

Brimſtone burnt plentifully in any Room or Place, though ill to be endured for the preſent, may effectually correct the Air for the future.

Vapours from Vinegar exhaled in any Room, may have the like Efficacy; eſpecially after it hath been impregnated, by infuſing or ſteeping in it any one or more of theſe Ingredients; Wormwood, Angelica, Maſterwort, Bay-Leaves, Roſemary, Rue, Sage, *Scordium*, or Water-Germander, *Valerium*, or Setwall-Root, Zedoary, Camphire. To which Vinegar alſo, to render it leſs ungrateful, may be added

added Rosewater, to a fourth or third Part; These are cooler, and so more proper for hot Seasons.

The Vapour of Vinegar raised by slaking of Lime in it, may effectually correct the Air near about it.

Take Salt-Peter, Amber, Brimstone, of each two Parts, of Juniper one part; mix them in a Powder, put thereof upon a red hot Iron, or Coals, a little at once.

IX. *Perfuming of Apparel.*

THis also may preserve from Infection, being done by some of the more grateful of the dry Fumes of the Gums, &c. before-mentioned to be burnt; and between whiles frequent shifting and airing of Apparel may be, especially by the Fire, or in the Sun, the more effectual; this to be done the rather, if one hath come in Danger of Infection.

X. *By carrying about of Perfumes.*

SUch as are to go abroad, shall do well to carry Rue, Angelica, Masterwort, Myrrhe, Scordium, or Water-germander, Wormwood, *Valerian*, or Setwall-Root, Virginian-Snake-Root, or Zedoary in their Hands to smell to; and of those they may hold or chew a little in their Mouths as they go in the Streets; they may anoint their Nostrils with Oil of Amber, or Balsam of Sulphur; especially if they be afraid of any Place: Fear, as well as Presumption, being hurtful.

Take Rue one handful, stamp it in a Mortar, put thereto Vinegar enough to moisten it, mix them well, then strain out the Juice, wet a piece of Spunge, or a Toast of brown Bread therein, tie it in a thin Cloth, bear it about to smell to.

Take the Root of Angelica beaten grosly, the Weight of six Pence, of Rue, and Wormwood, of

each the Weight of four Pence, Setwall the Weight of three Pence; bruiſe theſe, then ſteep them in a little Wine-Vinegar, tie them in a Linen Cloth, which they may carry in their Hands, or put it into a Juniper-Box full of Holes to ſmell to.

XI. *Or they may uſe this Pomander.*

TAke Angelica, Rue, Zedoary, of each half a Dram, Myrrh two Drams, Camphire ſix Grains, Wax and *Labdanum*, of each two Drams, more or leſs, as ſhall be thought fit to mix with the other Things; make hereof a Ball to carry about you; you may eaſily make a Hole in it, and ſo wear it about your Neck with a String.

XII. *The richer Sort may make uſe of this Pomander.*

TAke Citron-Peels, Angelica-Seeds, Zedoary, Red-Roſe-Leaves, of each half a Dram, yellow Saunders, *Lignum Aloes*, of each one Scruple, *Galliæ Moſchatæ* four Scruples, Storax, Benzoin, of each one Dram, Camphire ſix Grains, *Labdanum* three Drams, Gum-Tragacanth diſſolved in Roſe-water, enough to make it up into a Pomander, put thereto ſix Drops of Spirit of Roſes, incloſe it to an Ivory-Box, or wear it about your Neck.

XIII. *By inward Medicines.*

LET none go faſting forth; every one according as they can procure, let them take ſome ſuch thing as may reſiſt Putrefaction.

Some may take Garlick with Butter, a Clove, two or three, according as it ſhall agree with their Bodies; ſome may take faſting, ſome of the Electuary with Figs and Rue hereafter expreſſed: Some may uſe *London*-Treacle, the Weight of eight Pence in the Morning

Morning, taking more or less, according to the Age of the party; after one Hour let them eat some other Breakfast, as Bread and Butter with some Leaves of Rue, or Sage moistned with Vinegar, and in the heat of Summer, of Sorrel or Wood-Sorrel.

Pure Water with so much Salt as may be but tasted, or well born; or with Flour of Brimstone, or common Brimstone boiled in it, an ounce in three Pints, to a Quart; a draught being taken every Morning, hath proved effectual and successful.

☞ On this *Plague Water*, Dr. *Hodges* in his *Loimologia* observes; That it is to be taken notice, that in the Cure of a *Pestilence*, the Medicinal terms are not to be pompously contrived with a long Catalogue of Ingredients, but carefully adapted in every respect to the Circumstances and Exigencies of the Infected. It is also to be observed, that this Water is by no means indifferently to be given to all, or to every one in the same manner; as for instance, not at all to Women under their Menstrual Purgations, least it should provoke them to flow too immoderately; nor is it to be allowed to Women with Child, for feat of Miscarriage.

To steep Rue, Wormwood or Sage all Night in their Drink, and to drink a good Draught in the Morning fasting, is very wholesom, or to drink a Draught of such Drink, after the taking of any of the Preservatives, will be very good.

Take of Sage bruised well, two Handfuls, of Wormwood one Handful, of Rue half a Handful; put them into a Jugg of four Quarts, put to them of mild Beer ready to Drink four Quarts; in the Morning, let every one of the Family drink a Draught of it fasting together, eating after it Bread and Butter.

Take of the Roots of *Petasitis*, or Butterburr six Ounces, Roots of Elecampane, Masterwort and Angelica, of each an Ounce and half, Leaves of Meadow-sweet, *Scordium*, Bawm, of each two Handfuls, Rue and Wormwood, of each one Handful, Citron (or Limon) Peel, Nutmeg, of each half an Ounce, of Juniper-berries ripe and pulpey, two Ounces, of Carduus Seed, one Ounce: All duly prepared by cutting and bruising, are to be mixed and put into a Bag, to infuse in six Gallons of Ale or Beer, whereof may be drunk a Draught every Morning and Evening; and at Meals it may be mingled with ordinary Beer.

Take of the Conserve of Wood-Sorrel two Ounces, of Diascordium two Drams, of the Flour of Brimstone very finely ground one Dram, of Saffron three Grains, of Syrup of Wood-Sorrel, as much as is sufficient to make an Electuary: For prevention, take a Dram every Morning fasting, during the imminent danger: Let the Party drink after it a Draught of Whitewine Posset, with a Spoonful and half of the *Plague Water* in it in Bed, or of this Water following.

Take of Angelica, *Carduus Benedictus*, Sage, *Scordium*, *Petasitis*, or Butterburr, Baum, and Plantain, of each four Handfuls, of Setwall and Borage, of each two Handfuls, of Mint one Handful, of Whitewine two Quarts; distil them in a cold Still, and preserve the Water for use.

XIV. *The* Plague Water *of* Matthias, *or*, Aqua Epidemica.

TAke the Roots of Tormentil, Angelica, Peony, Zedoary, Liquorish, Elecampane, of each half an Ounce, the Leaves of Sage, *Scordium*, Celandine, Rue, Rosemary, Wormwood, *Ros Solis*, Mugwort, Burnet, Dragons, Scabious, Agrimony, Baum, *Carduus*,

duus, Betony, Centery the Less, Marygolds Leaves and Flowers, of each one handful; let them all be cut, bruised, and infused three Days in eight Pints of Whitewine in the Month of *May*, and distilled.

Take of *London*-Treacle two Ounces, of Conserve of Wood Sorrel three Ounces, of the temperate Cordial Species half an Ounce, of Syrup of Limons enough to make all an Electuary: Of this may be taken a Dram and half for Prevention, and the double Quantity for Cure.

Steep Juniper-Berries in Vinegar for a Night, let the Vinegar be exhaled off; eat thereof at pleasure.

An Electuary of Bole-Armeniack, as much as you please; or of the Powders whereof the Treacle *Diatesseron* is made, mixed up with Syrup of Vinegar; or an Electuary of Zedoary, with Syrup of Limons, are easily made, and very effectual, being taken as the former.

In all Summer Plagues it shall be good to use Sorrel Sawce to be eaten in the Morning with Bread, and in the Fall of the Leaf to use the Juice of Barberies with Bread also.

XV. *Or this will be effectual also.*

TAke twenty Walnuts, pill them, Figs fifteen, Rue a good handful, Tormentil Roots three Drams, Bole-Armoniack a Dram and a half. First stamp your Roots, then your Figs and Seeds, then add your Walnuts, then put to your Rue and Bole; and with them put thereto six Drams of *London*-Treacle, and two or three Spoonfuls of Wine Vinegar, mix them well in a Stone Mortar, and take of this every Morning the quantity of a good Nutmeg fasting: They that have cause to go much abroad, may take as much more in the Evening two Hours before Supper.

Take

Take of Figs Half a Pound, of Walnut Kernels two Ounces, of dried Rue-Leaves one Ounce, of Salt Half an Ounce, of the Root of *Petaſitis* ſix Drams, *Contrayerva* Root, *Virginian* Snake-root, Salt of *Prunella*, of each a Dram and half, of Zedoary a Dram, of Sugar diſſolved in Vinegar to a Syrup, enough to make all into an Electuary.

Hereof may be taken a Dram, or the Quantity of a Nutmeg every Morning and Evening.

XVI. *For Women with Child, Children, and ſuch as cannot take Bitter Things, uſe this.*

TAke Conſerve of Red Roſes, Conſerve of Wood Sorrel, of each two Ounces, Conſerves of Borage, of Sage Flowers, of each ſix Drams, Bole-Armoniack, Shavings of Harts-horn, Sorrel Seeds, of each two Drams, yellow or white Saunders half a Dram, Saffron one Scruple, Syrup of Wood Sorrel, enough to make it a moiſt Electuary; mix them well, take ſo much as a Cheſnut at a time, once or twice a Day, as you ſhall find Cauſe.

XVII. *For the Richer Sort.*

TAke the Shavings of Harts-horn, of Pearl, of Coral, of Tormentil Roots, Zedoary, true *Terra Sigillata*, of each one Dram, Citron Pills, yellow, white and red Saunders, of each half a Dram, white Amber, Hyacinth Stone prepared, of each two Scruples, Bezoar Stone of the Eaſt, Unicorns-horn, of each four and twenty Grains, Citron and Orange Peels candied, of each three Drams, *Lignum Aloes* one Scruple, white Sugar-candy twice the Weight of all the reſt; mix them well, being made into a Dredge Powder. Take the Weight of Twelve-pence at a time every Morning faſting, and alſo in the

the Evening about Five a Clock, or an Hour before Supper.

With theſe Powders and Sugar there may be made Lozenges, or *Manus Chriſti's*, and with convenient Conſerves they may be made into Electuaries. All which, and many more for their Health, they may have by the Advice and Directions of their own Phyſicians: or, as we hope, Phyſicians will not be wanting to direct them as they may have need, to the Poor for Charity ſake.

They may alſo uſe Bezoar-water, or Treacle-water diſtilled, compounded by the Phyſicians of *London*, and known by the name of *Aqua Theriacalis Stillatitia*, which they may uſe ſimply; or they may mix them alſo with all their Antidotes, as occaſion ſhall require.

Take of Ambergreaſe a Scruple, diſſolve it in four Ounces of the beſt Spirit of Sack; take hereof every Morning a Scruple, with Crumbs of White Bread and Sugar of Roſes. Balſam of Sulphur to four or five Drops, or *Elixir Proprietatis* to twenty or thirty Drops, in Wine, or Water and Sugar, may be effectual.

The uſe of *London*-Treacle is good, both to preſerve from the Sickneſs, as alſo to cure the Sick, being taken upon the firſt Apprehenſion in a greater Quantity, as to a Man two Drams, but leſs to a weak Body, or a Child, in Carduus or Dragon-water.

Take of the fineſt clear Aloes you can buy, of Cinnamon, of Myrrh, of each of theſe the Weight of three *French* Crowns, or of Two and twenty Pence of our Money, of Cloves, Mace, *Lignum Aloes*, of Maſtick, of Bole Oriental, of each of theſe half an Ounce; mingle them together, and beat them into a very fine Powder, of the which take every Morning faſting the Weight of a Groat in Whitewine deluyed with Water.

Take

Take the Powder of Tormentil, the Weight of Six-pence, with Sorrel or Scabious Water in Summer, and in the Winter with the Water of Valerian, or common Drink, wherein hath been infuſed the fore-named Herbs.

Or elſe, in one Day they may take a little Wormwood and Valerian, with a Grain of Salt; in another Day they may take ſeven or eight Berries of Juniper dried, and put in Powder, and taking the ſame with common Drink, or with Drink in which Wormwood and Rue hath been ſteeped all Night.

Alſo the Treacle called *Diateſſaron*, which is made but of four Things, of light Price, eaſy to be had: The Ingredients are, Gentian, Bay-Berries, Myrrh, and *Ariſtolochia* the round, in equal Proportion, made into an Electuary with three times the Weight of Honey.

Alſo the Root of *Elicampane* taken in Powder with Drink.

Likewiſe a piece of Orris Root kept in the Mouth as Men paſs in the Streets.

Take ſix Leaves of Sorrel, waſh them with Water and Vinegar, let them lie in the ſaid Water and Vinegar a while, then eat them faſting, and keep in your Mouth and chew now and then either Setwall, or the Root of Angelica, or a little Cinamon, or four Grains of Myrrh, or ſo much of Rattle-ſnake Root: Goats Rue may be eaten in Salads, or the Juice or Decoction thereof in Broth or Poſſet-drink, may be ſo uſed to very good purpoſe.

XVIII. *Iſſues.*

SUch as are tied to neceſſary Attendance on the Infected, as alſo ſuch as live in Viſited Houſes, ſhall do well to cauſe Iſſues to be made in their Arms or Legs, or both, as the Phyſician ſhall think fit.

XIX. *Bleed-*

XIX. *Bleeding, Purging, Vomiting.*

THese three great Remedies rarely have place in the Plague, but are generally dangerous, (and most of all, Purging by any strong Medicines) and therefore not to be used but upon some extraordinary urgent, indicant, or just Occasion, and with the greatest Caution, which only an able Physician can judge of; and therefore, no Advice in general can be given; only if any Person be taken sick upon a full Stomach, from eating lately before, or Meat undigested; it is advisable that such Person discharge or get the Stomach emptied with all speed, by a large quantity of Carduus, or plain Posset-Drink, or warm Water, provoking by a Feather or Finger in the Throat as is usual: And when need requires, to open or keep soluble the Body, the Pills of *Rufus*, commonly called *Pestilential Pills*, are the best and most proper to be used.

XX. *Medicines expulsive.*

THe Poison is expelled best by Sweating, provoked by Posset-Ale, made with Fennel and Marygolds in Winter, and with Sorrel, Buglos, and Borage in *Summer*; with the which in both Times they must mingle *London*-Treacle, the Weight of two Drams, and so lay themselves with all Quietness to Sweat.

For those that are able to bear it, this Course is effectual, and hath proved successful: Let the Party take a large Dose of any of these Cordials that is next at hand, that is to say, of *London*-Treacle, or Diascordium, of either half an Ounce, or of Methridate a quarter of an Ounce, or of *Venice*-Treacle half a quarter, or a quarter of an Ounce at most, in a Draught of Posset-Drink made with Whitewine,

or Vinegar; then let him be put to Bed to Sweat, well covered in a Blanket, without his Shirt, for 24 Hours; every ſixth Hour renewing his Cordial, but in half the quantity formerly directed; between whiles refreſhing him with Poſſet-Drink, Oatmeal-Caudle, or thin Broths made Gellywiſe, or Harts-horn Gelly.

If the Perſon be unapt to ſweat, lay two or three Bricks quenched in Vinegar, wrapped up in a Woollen Cloth, to his Body, to promote it.

At the ſame time that he applieth himſelf to ſweat, he muſt apply Bliſters to the Parts of his Body, as is elſewhere directed; or *Setons* with Briony, Hellebore, or Setterwort-Roots, doth exceeding well on the ſame Occaſion.

Take of Angelica-Root two Ounces, of Tormentil-Root an Ounce and half, make a Decoction in two Pints of Water to a Pint and half, add three Ounces of Juice of Limon, or an Ounce and half of Vinegar; let the Sick drink a Draught as he can bear, and repeat it at two or three Hours Diſtance.

Take of Mithridate to the quantity of two Drams, or of *London*-Treacle, or of Diaſcotdium to three Drams, or of *Venice*-Treacle to a Dram and half; diſſolve either of them in a quarter of a Pint of Vinegar, and drink it.

Take of *Venice*-Treacle a Dram, Diaſcordium two Scruples, Salt of Wormwood, Crabs-eyes, of each a Scruple, Treacle-Water an Ounce and half, Juice of Limons, or Vinegar, two Ounces, for one Doſe.

For the Cure of the Infected upon the firſt Apprehenſion, Bur-Seeds, Cochinele, Powder of Harts-horn, Citron-Seeds, one or more of them, with a few Grains of Camphire, are good to be given in Carduus or Dragon-Water, or with ſome Treacle-Water.

Take

Take of Whitewine-Vinegar from half a quarter to a quarter of a Pint, mixed with Salt, from twenty Grains to forty; drink it warm, and sweat upon it: Or take the Juice of fresh Cow-Dung, strained with Vinegar, from three Spoonfuls to seven.

XXI. AVICEN's *Medicine.*

TAke of Bole-Armeniack a Dram, of Juice of Orange half an Ounce, of Whitewine an Ounce, of Red-rose Water two ounces; mix them, and give it as soon as the Party suspects the Disease; if it be vomited, repeat it again; if vomited again, repeat it the second time.

Take of Burr-Seeds half a Dram, of Cochinele half a Scruple, of Camphire five Grains; mix these with two Ounces of Carduus, or Dragon-Water, half an Ounce of Treacle-Water, Syrup of Wood-sorrel a Spoonful; mix these, give it the Patient warm, cover him to sweat; you may give him a second Draught after twelve Hours; let him drink no cold Drink: This Posset-Drink, or the like, will be good to give the Visited liberally.

Take Citron-Seeds, six or eight, Shavings of Hartshorn half a Dram, *London*-Treacle one Dram; mix them with two Ounces of Carduus-Water, or with three Ounces of the prescribed Posset-Drink; drink it warm, and so lie to sweat.

Take Sorrel-Water, five or six Spoonfuls, Treacle-Water one Spoonful, *London*-Treacle one Dram and a half; mix them well, give it warm, and so lay the Patient to sweat.

Take Tormentil, and Celandine-Roots, of each four Ounces, Scabious and Rue, of each one Handful and a half, Whitewine-Vinegar three Pints; boil these till one Pint be wasted, strain out the Liquor, which reserve for the use of the Infected: Let it be taken thus:

Take of this Liquor, and of Carduus-Water, of each one Ounce and an half, *London*-Treacle one Dram and an half, Bole-Armeniack half a Scruple, put thereto a little Sugar; mix them well, let the Party drink it warm, and cover him to ſweat.

XXII. *In* Summer *this is good.*

TAke the Juice of Wood-Sorrel two Ounces, the Juice of Limons one Ounce, Diaſcordium one Dram, Cinamon ſix Grains, Vinegar half an Ounce; give it warm, and lay the ſick Party to ſweat; uſe this in caſe of Fluxes of the Belly, or want of Reſt.

Take of Treacle of *Andromachus*, or *Venice*-Treacle, from half a Dram to a Dram; or of *Electuarium de Ovo*, from a Scruple to half a Dram, in warm Poſſet-Ale, as ſoon as you ſuſpect your ſelf infected, going to Bed, and ſweating upon it.

Take of the Roots of Butter-burr, the inner Bark of Aſh, of each a Pound; Rue, Scordium, Angelica, Meadow-Sweet, Dragons, Carduus, of each three Handfuls; Whitewine and Vinegar, of each two Quarts; let them infuſe for a Day or two, and after be diſtilled; adding to the reſt (if to be had) ſix Handfuls of the green Rinds of Walnuts: Let the Water be ſweetned with the Syrup of Wood-Sorrel, adding to two Quarts half a Dram of Camphire, and three Drams of Spirit of Sulphur: This Water may be given from two Ounces to four.

Take of the Roots of Butter-burr eight Ounces; let them be infuſed in a Gallon of Ale for four and twenty Hours, and then diſtilled in a Limbick; add to the diſtilled Water ſix Pints of a ſtrong Decoction of Carduus; and in theſe Liquors infuſe Roots of Butter-burr, Maſterwort, Angelica, *Valerian*, of each ſix Ounces, Elecampane-Root an Ounce; Leaves of *Scordium*, Bawm, of each three Handfuls; of Juniper-Berries half an Ounce: After four and

twenty

twenty Hours infusing in a Bath or hot Water, make a second Distillation. Of this Water may be given three or four Ounces with warm Posset-Ale.

Take of the Root Butterburr, otherwise called Pestilent-wort, one Ounce, of the Root of Great-Valerian a quarter of an Ounce, of Sorrel an Handful; boil all these in a Quart of Water to a Pint, then strain it, and put thereto two Spoonfuls of Vinegar, and dissolve in it two Ounces of good Sugar: Let the Infected drink of this, so hot as he may suffer it, a good Draught, and if he chance to cast it up again, let him take the same quantity straitway upon it, and provoke himself to sweat.

Take of the Powder of good Bay-Berries, the Husk taken away from them before they be dried, or of Ivy-Berries well dried, a Spoonful; let the Patient drink this well mingled in a Draught of good stale Ale or Beer, or with a Draught of Whitewine, and go to Bed, and cast himself into a Sweat, and forbear Sleep.

Take the inward Bark of the Ash Tree one Pound, of Walnuts with the Green outward Shells, to the Number of Fifty, cut these small; of Scabious, of Vervin, of each a Handful, of Saffron two Drams, pour upon these the strongest Vinegar you can get, four Pints, let them a little boil together upon a very soft Fire, and then stand in a very close Pot, well stopt all Night upon the Embers, after distil them with a soft Fire, and receive the Water close kept. Give unto the Patient laid in Bed and well covered with Cloaths, two Ounces of this Water to drink, and let him be provoked to Sweat; and every eight Hours (during the space of four and twenty Hours) give him the same quantity to drink.

Care must be taken in the use of these Sweating Cordials, that the Party infected, sweat two or three Hours, or rather much longer, if he have Strength, and sleep not till the Sweat be over, and

that he have been well wiped with warm Linnen, and when he hath been dried, let him waſh his Mouth with Water and Vinegar warm, and let his Face and Hands be waſhed with the ſame. When theſe things are done, give him a good Draught of Broth made with Chicken or Mutton, with Roſemary, Thyme, Sorrel, Succory and Marygolds; or elſe Water-Grewel, with Roſemary and Winter-Savory or Thyme, Panado ſeaſoned with Verjuice, or Juice of Wood-Sorrel: For their Drink, let it be Small Beer warmed, with a Toaſt, or Water boiled with Carraway-Seed, Carduus-Seed, and a Cruſt of Bread, or ſuch Poſſet-Drink as is mentioned before in the ſecond Medicine; after ſome Nutriment, let them ſleep or reſt, often waſhing their Mouth with Water and Vinegar.

Theſe Cordials muſt be repeated once in eight, ten, or twelve Hours at the furtheſt.

If the Party infected, Vomit up his Medicine, then repeat it preſently.

XXIII. *Medicines External.*

VESICATORIES applied behind the Ears, about the Wriſts, near the Arm-pits, on the inſide of the Thighs, and near the Groins, will draw forth the Venom.

For the Swelling under the Ears, Armpits, or in the Groins, they muſt be always drawn forth and ripened, and broke with all ſpeed.

Theſe Tumours, and much more the Carbuncles and Blains, do require the care and skill of the expert Chirurgeon: but not to leave the poorer Sort deſtitute of good Remedies, theſe following are very good.

Pull off the Feathers from the Tails of living Cocks, Hens, Pigeons or Chickens, and holding their Bills, hold them hard to the Botch or Swelling, and

and so keep them at that Part until they die; and by this means draw out the Poison. It is good to apply a Cupping-Glass, or Embers in a Dish, with a handful of Sorrel upon the Embers.

XXIV. *To break the Tumour.*

TAKE a great Onion, hollow it, put into it a Fig, Rue cut small, and a Dram of *Venice*-Treacle, put it close stopt in a wet Paper, and roast it in the Embers; apply it hot unto the Tumour, lay three or four, one after another, let one lie three hours.

Or it may be better to roll the Onion and Fig apart, the Onion being kept whole, and then, that all be beaten and mixed together.

Take Roots of white Lillies, Figs, Leeks roasted, of each an Ounce, of Lime-Seed half an Ounce, let them be beat together in a Mortar, and mixed with six Drams of old sour Leaven, adding as much Oil of Lillies as may give a due Consistence: Let it be applied to the Tumour till it ripen and break; which last, if it do not in a long time, it may be opened by Incision, or a Caustick, applied upon, or a little below it.

Scabious and Sorrel roasted in the Embers, mixt with a little strong Leaven, and some Barrows-Grease, and a little Salt, will draw it and break it.

Take two or three roasted Onions, a Lilly-Root or two, roasted, a Handful of Scabious roasted, four or five Figs, a piece of Leaven, and a little Rue, stamp all these together; if it be too dry, put to it of Oil of Lillies as much as shall be needful, or so much salt Butter; make a Pultice, apply it hot, after it hath lain three or four Hours take it off, and burn it, and apply a fresh Pultice of the same, if it prove hard

hard to break, and a little burnt Copperas to the Pultice.

Or this,

TAKE the Flowers of Elder two Handfuls, Rocket-Seed bruised one Ounce, Pigeons Dung three Drams: Stamp these together, put to them a little Oil of Lilies, make thereof a Pultice, apply it, and change it as you did the former.

XXVI. *To draw.*

WHEN it is broken, to draw it, and heal it, take the Yolk of an Egg, one Ounce of Honey of Roses, Turpentine half an Ounce, Wheat-Flour a little, *London*-Treacle a Dram and a half; mix these well, spread it upon Leather, change it twice Day, or take *Diachylon cum Gummis.*

XXVII. *For the Carbuncle.*

APPLY an actual potential Cautery, laying a Defensative of Bole-Armeniack, or *Terra Sigillata*, mixed with Vinegar, and the White of an Egg, round about the Tumour, but not upon it.

Take three or four Cloves of Garlick, Rue half a Handful, four Figgs, strong Leaven, and the Soot of a Chimney in which Wood hath been burnt, of each half an Ounce, Mustard-Seed two Drams, Salt a Dram and a half; stamp these well together, and apply it hot to the Sore; you may put thereto a little salt Butter, if it be too dry.

Or this,

TAKE Leaven half an Ounce, Radish-Roots, the bigger the better, an Ounce and an half; Mustard-Seed

Seed two Drams, Onions and Garlick roaſted, of each two Drams and an half, *Venice*-Treacle or *Mithridatum* three Drams; mix theſe in a Mortar, apply it hot thrice a Day to the Sore.

But theſe Sores cannot be well ordered and cured without the perſonal Care of a diſcreet Chirurgeon.

Take of Scabious two Handfuls, ſtamp it in a Stone Mortar, then put into it of old Swines Greaſe ſalted two Ounces, and the Yolk of an Egg; ſtamp them well together, and lay part of this warm to the Sore.

Take of the Leaves of Mallows, of Camomil Flowers, of each of them a Handful, of Linſeed beaten into Powder, two Ounces, boil the Mallow Leaves firſt cut, and the Flowers of Camomil in fair Water, ſtanding about a Finger's breadth, boil all them together, until all the Water be almoſt ſpent, then put thereunto the Linſeed, of Wheat Flower half a Handful, of Swines Greaſe, the Skins taken away, three Ounces, of Oil of Lillies two Ounces, ſtir them ſtill with a Stick, and let them all boil together on a ſoft Fire without Smoke, until the Water be utterly ſpent; beat them all together in a Mortar until they be well incorporated, and in feeling ſmooth, and not rough; then take Part thereof hot in a Diſh, ſet upon a Chafing-diſh of Coals, and lay it thick upon a Linnen Cloth, applying it to the Sore.

Take a white Onion cut in pieces, of freſh Butter three Ounces, of Leaven the Weight of Twelvepence, of Mallows one Handful, of Scabious one Handful, of Cloves of Garlick the Weight of Twenty Pence; boil them on the Fire in ſufficient Water, and make a Pultice of it, and lay it warm to the Sore.

Another.

IF you cannot have these Herbs, it is good to lay a Loaf of Bread to it hot, as it cometh out of the Oven, (which afterward shall be burnt, or buried in the Earth) or the Leaves of Scabious or Sorrel roasted, or two or three Lilly Roots rosted under Embers, beaten and applied.

It will be good to forbear all crude and moist Fruits, as Cucumbers, Melons, Plumbs, Cherries, Peaches, and raw Herbs and Sallads, as Lettice, Spinage, Radish, and such like; or to be moderate in the use of them, mix'd with Oil and Vinegar.

THose that are delighted with Chymical Medicines only, may make use of some of these following, being honestly prepared according to the Descriptions of the Authors, and cautiously administred.

Elixir Pestilentiale.
Elixir Proprietatis.
Sulphur album & fixum.
Tinctura auri & Sulphuris fixi incremabilis.
Mixtura Bezoardica.
Extractum Pestilentiale.
Aurum Diaphoreticum.
Aurum Vitæ.
Bezoardicum minerale purpurascens.
Bezoardicum minerale diaphoreticum.
Turpetum minerale diaphoreticum.
Aqua gratiæ Dei.
Spiritus Antipestiferus.
Præcipitatus auri diaphoreticus.

Besides

BEſides thoſe Forms of Remedies already mentioned by the *College*, I find the following were had in great Eſteem.

The King's Majeſty's excellent Receipt for the Plague.

TAke half an Ounce of Nutmegs, beat them all together, put it over the Fire a little, and add Three Pennyworth of Treacle, and a Quart of the beſt Angelica-Water: Take it always warm, both Morning and Evening, a Spoonful or two, if you be already infected, and ſweat thereupon; if not, a Spoonful in the Morning, and half a Spoonful in the Evening, all the Time the *Plague* continues.

A Poſſet-drink whereby Secretary Naunton *removed the* Plague *from his Heart.*

AN Ale Poſſet-drink with Pimpernel ſeethed in it, till it taſte ſtrong of it, drunk often, removes the Infection, tho' it hath reached the very Heart.

A Drink for the Plague *prepared by the Lord* Bacon, *and approved by Queen* Elizabeth.

TAke a Pint of Malmſey burnt, with a Spoonful of bruiſed Grains, *i. e.* Cardamom Seeds, of the beſt Treacle a Spoonful, and give the Patient to drink of it two or three Spoonfuls pretty often, with a Draught of Malmſey Wine after it, and ſo let him ſweat; if it agrees with him, and it ſtays with him, he is out of Danger; if he vomits it up, repeat it again.

Dr. Butler *of* Cambridge *his Preservative against the* Plague.

TAke of Wood Sorrel and pick it from the Stalk, and pound it very well in a Stone Mortar; then take to every Pound of beaten Sorrel, a Pound of Sugar finely beaten, and two Ounces of Mithridate; beat them very well together, and put it into Pots for your Use: Take every Morning before and after the Infection, for some Time together, of this Conserve as much as a Wallnut.

A Soveraign Medicine for the Plague *given by Queen* Elizabeth *to the Lord Maior.*

TAke Sage, Alder and Red Bramble Leaves, of each a little Handful, stamp and strain them together through a Cloth with a Quart of Whitewine; then take a quantity of Whitewine Vinegar, mix these all together, and drink thereof Morning and Night a Spoonful at a time nine Days together.

REFLECTIONS
ON THE
Weekly Bills of Mortality,

So far as they relate to all the Plagues that have happen'd in *London* from the Year 1592, to the great Plague in 1665, and ſome other particular Diſeaſes.

THere have been in *London*, within about 130 Years, four great Mortalities.

The firſt in 1592. when there died between *March* and *December*, 25886.

Whereof of the Plague, 11503.

The ſecond in 1603. when there died from *March* to *December*, 37294.

Whereof of the Plague, 30561.

The fourth in 1636. from *April* to *December*, 23357.

Whereof of the Plague, 10400.

In the firſt and laſt of theſe Years, *viz.* 1592. and 1636. the Proportion of thoſe that died of the *Plague*, to thoſe that died of all other Diſeaſes or Caſualties, was about two to five.

In

In the ſecond, *viz.* 1603. it was four to five.
In the third, it was ſeven to ten.
And ſo the greateſt Plague Year was 1603.
And yet the greateſt Year of Mortality was 1625.

When the Burials were 54265,
The Chriſtenings were 6983, } Or as { 8. 1.

This Buſineſs lying here, that there lieth an Error in the Accounts or Diſtinctions of Caſualties, that is, more died of the *Plague* than were accounted for under that Name, as many as one to four, there being a fourth Part more dead of other Caſualties that Year, than the Years preceding or ſubſequent. Whence we may collect a good Rule, *viz.* That whereas it is doubted we have not a true Account of the Number that died in 1665. of the *Plague*, the poor Searchers, out of Ignorance, Reſpect, Love of Money, or Malice, returning, it's ſuſpected, more or leſs, as they were inclined; we may diſcern the Truth, by comparing the Number that died of other Diſeaſes, and the Caſualties the Weeks immediately before the *Plague* begun, and the Number reported to have been dead every Week of thoſe Diſeaſes and Caſualties after, and obſerving that the Surpluſage that died at one Time, above what did then of thoſe Diſeaſes, are indeed dead of the *Plague*, tho' returned under the Notion of thoſe other Diſeaſes.

And here it will not be unſeaſonable to obſerve, That the keeping of Bills of Mortality began *A. D.* 1592. being a Year of great Sickneſs, and after ſome Diſuſe, was eſtabliſhed by Order, *A. D.* 1603. the next Year of Sickneſs: The firſt of the continued weekly Bills of Mortality commencing *October* 29. 1603. the firſt Year of King *James*.

Theſe Bills are made and compoſed in this manner, *viz.* When any one dieth, either the Tolling and

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and Ringing of the Bell, or the beſpeaking of a Grave, intimateth it to the Searchers, (who keep a ſtrict Correſpondence with the Sexton) and thereupon the ancient Matrons ſworn to that Office, repair to the Place where the dead Corps lieth, and upon their own View, and others Examination, make a Judgment by what Diſeaſe or Caſualty the Corps died; which Judgment they report to the Pariſh Clerk, as he doth every *Tueſday* Night the Account of every Chriſtening and Burial that Week to the Clerk of the Hall; whence on *Wedneſday* the general Account is made up and printed, and on *Thurſday* publiſhed to the reſpective Families that pay for them.

Now altho' the Searchers are ignorant and careleſs, yet in ſuch Diſeaſes and Caſualties as are obvious to Senſe, as Age, Conſumptions, or inward Decayings, ſignified by the outward Leanneſs, Coughs, Wind, Teeth, Convulſions, Thruſh, Scowring, Abortions, Head-ach, or ſudden Deaths, or by Apoplexy, *&c.* Drowning, Vomiting, *&c.* Small-Pox, Stone, Gout, they may be relied on, as they may alſo in ſuch Caſes as thoſe wherein they have the Opinion of the Phyſicians: But take Inſtance in

A General BILL *of the Number of Burials which have been buried of all Diſeaſes, and alſo of the* Plague, *in every Pariſh within the City of* London, *and the Liberties thereof, as alſo in the Nine Out-Pariſhes adjoyning to the ſaid City, with the* Peſt-Houſe *belonging to the ſame, from* Thurſday, December 16, 1624, *to* Thurſday *the* 15*th of* December, 1625, *according to the Report made to the King's moſt excellent Majeſty, by the Company of Pariſh-Clerks of* London.

London.	*Bur.*	*Plag.*
S. Albans Woodſtreet	188	78
Allhallows Barking	397	263
Alhallows Bread-ſtreet	34	14
Alhallows the Great	442	302
Alhallows Honey-lane	18	8
Alhallows the Leſs	259	205
Alhallows Lumbard-ſtreet	86	44
Alhallows Stainings	183	138
Alhallows the Wall	301	155
S. Alphage Cripplegate	240	190
S. Andrew Hubbard	146	101
S. Andrews Underſhaft	219	149
S. Andrews Wardrobe	373	191
S. Anns Alderſgate	196	128
S. Anns Black-Friars	336	215
S. Antholins Pariſh	62	31
S. Auſtins Pariſh	72	40
S. Barthol. Exchange	52	24
S. Bennets Fynck	108	57
S. Bennets Grace-Church	48	14
S. Bennets Pauls Wharf	226	131
S. Bennets Sherehog	24	8
S. Botolphs Billingſgate	99	66
Chriſt Church Pariſh	611	371
S. Chriſtophers	48	28
S. Clements Eaſtcheap	87	72
S. Dionis Back-church	149	59

S. Dunſtans

	Bur.	Plag.
S. Dunſtans in the Eaſt	335	225
S. Edmunds Lumbard-ſtreet	78	42
S. Ethelborough	205	101
S. Faiths	89	45
S. Foſters	149	102
S. Gabriel Fen-church	71	54
S. George Botolph-lane	30	19
S. Gregories by Pauls	296	196
S. Hellens Biſhopſgate	136	71
S. James Garlickhithe	180	109
S. John Baptiſt	122	79
S. John Evangeliſt	7	6
S. John Zacharies	143	97
S. James Dukes-place	310	254
S. Katherine Coleman	263	173
S. Katherine Creechurch	886	373
S. Lawrence Jewry	91	55
S. Lawrence Pountney	206	127
S. Leonards Eaſtcheap	55	26
S. Leonards Foſter-lane	292	209
S. Magnus	137	85
S. Margarets Lothbury	114	64
S. Margarets Moſes	37	23
S. Margarets New-fiſh-ſtreet	123	89
S. Margaret Pattons	77	50
S. Mary Abchurch	98	58
S. Mary Aldermanbury	126	79
S. Mary Aldermary	92	54
S. Mary le Bow	35	19
S Mary Bothaw	22	14
S. Mary Colechurch	26	11
S. Mary Hill	152	84
S. Mary Mounthaw	76	58
S. Mary Summerſet	270	192
S. Mary Stainings	70	44
S. Mary Woolchurch	58	35
S. Mary Woolnoth	82	50

	Bur.	Plag.
S. Martins Iremonger-lane	25	18
S. Martins Ludgate	294	164
S. Martins Orgars	88	47
S. Martins Outwich	60	30
S. Martins in the Vintrey	339	208
S. Matthew Friday-ſtreet	24	11
S. Maudlins Milk-ſtreet	401	23
S. Maudlins Old Fiſh-ſtreet	225	142
S. Michael Baſſiſhaw	199	139
S. Michael Cornhill	155	79
S. Michael Crooked-lane	144	91
S. Michael Queenhithe	215	157
S. Michael in the Querne	53	30
S. Michael Royal	111	61
S. Michael Wood-ſtree	189	68
S. Mildreds Bread-ſtree	60	44
S. Mildreds Poultrey	94	45
S. Nicholas Acons	33	13
S. Nicholas Coleabby	87	67
S. Nicholas Olaves	70	43
S. Olaves Hart-ſteet	266	195
S. Olaves Jewry	43	25
S. Olaves Silver-ſtreet	174	103
S. Pancras Soper-lane	17	8
S. Peters Cheap	68	44
S. Peters Cornhill	318	78
S. Peters Pauls Wharf	97	68
S. Peters Poor	52	27
S. Stevens Coleman-ſtreet	506	350
S. Stevens Walbrooke	25	13
S. Swithins London-ſtone	99	60
S. Thomas Apoſtles	141	107
Trinity Pariſh	148	87
Buried within the 97 Pariſhes within the Walls		
Of all Diſeaſes		14340
Of the Plague		9197

S, Andrews

	Bur.	*Plag.*
S. Andrews Holborn	2198	1636
S. Bartholomew the Great	516	360
S. Bartholomew the Leſs	111	85
S. Brides Pariſh	1481	1031
S. Botolph Aldgate	2573	1653
Bridewell Precinct	213	152
S. Botolph Biſhopſgate	2334	714
S. Botolph Alderſgate	578	307
S. Dunſtans Weſt	860	642
S. George Southwark	1608	912
S. Giles Cripplegate	3988	2338
S. Olaves Southwark	2746	1671
S. Sepulchres Pariſh	425	2420
S. Thomas in Southwark	335	277
Trinity Minories	131	187
At the Peſt-houſe	194	189

Buried in the 16 Pariſhes without the Walls, ſtanding part within the Liberties, in Middleſex, Surrey, *and*

At the Peſthouſe	26972
Of the Plague	17153

	Bur.	*Plag.*
S. Clements Danes	1284	755
S. Giles in the Fields	1333	947
S. James Clarkenwell	1191	903
S. Katherines Tower	998	744
S. Leonards Shoreditch	1995	1407
S. Martins in the Fields	1470	973
S. Mary White-chappel	3305	2252
S. Magdalens Bermondſey	1127	880
S. Mary Savoy	250	176

Buried in the 9 Out Pariſhes in Mid. *and* Surrey	12953
Whereof of the Plague	9067
The total within and without	54265
Of the Plague	35417
Pariſhes clear	1
Pariſhes infected	121

The Plague 1603, lasted eight Years, in some whereof there died Four Thousand, in others above Two Thousand, and in but one, less than Six Hundred; as may appear by this following Note, viz.

In the Year	there died of the *Plague*
1604	896
1605	444
1606	3128
1607	2352
1608	2262
1609	4240
1610	1803
1611	627
1612	64
1613	16
1614	22
1615	37
1616	9
1617	6
1618	18
1619	9
	17452

Whereas

Whereas in the Year 1624 next preceding, and in the Year 1626 next following the great *Plague* Year 1625, there died in the former but Eleven, and in the latter but One Hundred Thirty Four of the *Plague*: Yea, in the said Year 1625, the *Plague* decreased from its utmost Number, Four Thousand Four Hundred Sixty One a Week, to beneath a Thousand, in Six Weeks. And thus it was.

In the Year	1620	there died of the *Plague*
	1621	
	1622	
	1623	
	1624	
	1625	35417
	1626	134
	1627	4
	1628	3
	1629	6
	1630	1317
	1631	474
	1632	8

A BILL of Mortality for the Year 1593, being a Plague Year.

LONDON.	Bur.	Plag.
S. Albans Wood-ſtreet	68	30
Alhallows Barking	203	102
Alhallows Bread-ſtreet	45	19
Alhallows the Great	305	194
Alhallows Honey-Lane	21	9
Alhallows the Leſs	108	64
Alhallows Lombard-ſtreet	96	47
Alhallows Staining	183	102
Alhallows the Wall	202	106
S. Alphage	176	98
S. Andrew Hubbard	97	67
S. Andrew Underſhaft	197	88
S. Andrew Wardrobe	147	59
S. Anns Alderſgate	206	101
S. Anns Black-Friars	200	85
S. Antholins Pariſh	207	69
S. Auſtins Pariſh	146	106
S. Barthol. Exchange	194	125
S. Bennet Finck	63	54
S. Bennet Grace-church	140	78
S. Bennets Pauls Wharf	51	23
S. Bennet Sherehog	58	24
S. Botolph Billinſgate	306	152
Chriſt Church	36	18
S. Chriſtopher	186	117
S. Clements Eaſtcheap	506	337
S. Dionis Back-church	44	16
S. Dunſtans Eaſt	107	67
S. Edmunds Lombard-ſteeet	105	68
S. Ethelborough	406	209
S. Faiths	84	45
S. Foſters	107	52
S. Gabriel Fen-church	300	107

S. George

	Bur.	Plag.
S. George Botolph-lane	67	32
S. Gregorys by Pauls	52	25
S. Hellens	25	4
S. James Dukes-place	314	215
S. James Garlickhithe	207	41
S. John Baptiſt	209	477
S. John Evangeliſt	304	164
S. John Zachary	3	1
S. Katherine Coleman	444	222
S. Katherine Creechurch	106	46
S. Lawrence Jewry	307	85
S. Lawrence Pountney	41	12
S. Leonards Eaſtcheap	114	56
S. Leonards Foſter-lane	106	46
S. Magnus	184	87
S. Margargaret Lothbury	208	46
S. Margaret Moſes	167	42
S. Margaret New Fiſh-ſtreet	84	52
S. Margaret Pattons	38	22
S. Mary Abchurch	92	61
S. Mary Aldermanbury	79	54
S. Mary Aldermary	104	67
S. Mary-le-Bow	194	97
S. Mary Bothaw	104	47
S. Mary Cole-church	38	18
S. Mary Hill	39	15
S. Mary Mounthaw	29	13
S. Mary Sommerſet	110	72
S. Mary Stainings	62	39
S. Mary Woolchurch	207	148
S. Mary Woolnoth	42	28
S. Martins Iremonger-lane	43	31
S. Martins Ludgate	62	34
S. Martins Orgars	25	18
S. Martins Outwich	205	104
S. Martins in the Vintrey	62	42
S. Matthew Friday-ſtreet	40	20
S. Maudlins Milk-ſtreet	229	116

S. Maudlins

	Bur.	Plag.
S. Magdlins Old Fish-street		
S. Michael Bassishaw		
S. Michael Cornhill		
S. Michael Crooked-lane		
S. Michael Queenhithe		
S. Michael in the Querne		
S. Michael Royal		
S. Michael Wood-street		
S. Miildred Bread-street		
S. Mildred Poultry		
S. Nicholas Acons		
S. Nicholas Cole-abby		
S. Nicholas Olaves		
S. Olaves Hart-street		
S. Olaves Jewry		
S. Olaves Silver-street		
S. Pancras Soper-lane		
S. Peters Cheap		
S. Peters Cornhill		
S. Peters Pauls-Wharf	57	
S. Peters Poor		
S. Stevens Coleman-street	90	
S. Stevens Walbrooke		
S. Swithins London-stone	400	150
S. Thomas Apostles		
Trinity Parish		

Buried in the 16 Out-Parishes, and at the Postmans.

S. Andrews Holborn		
S. Bartholmew the Great		
S. Bartholmew the Less		
S. Brides Parish		
Bridewel Precinct		
S. Botolph Aldersgate		
S. Botolph Algate		
S. Botolph Bishopsgate		

	Bur.	Plag.
S. Dunſtans Weſt	585	363
S. George Southwark	1112	618
S. Giles Cripplegate	2968	1989
S. Olaves Southwark	1998	1064
S. Saviours Southwark	1946	1241
S. Sepulchres Pariſh	3440	2502
S. Thomas in Southwark	304	194
Trinity Minories	109	78
At the Peſthouſe	208	195

Buried in the 9 Out-Pariſhes.

S. Giles in the Fields	894	569
Hackney Pariſh	999	669
S. James Clerkenwel	740	479
S. Katherines Tower	698	489
Lambeth Pariſh	1569	1308
S. Leonards Shorditch	1202	773
S. Magdalens Bermond	2606	2095
S. Mary Newington	964	702
S. Mary Iſlington	206	150

A General BILL *for the Year* 1603. *being another Plague Year.*

LONDON.	Bur.	Plag.
S. Albans Wood-ſtreet	92	39
S. Alhallows Barking	182	131
S. Alhallows Bread-ſtreet	17	8
S. Alhallows Great	221	132
S. Alhallows Hony-lane	9	4
S. Alhallows Leſs	134	102
S. Alhallows Lumbard-ſtreet	43	21
S. Alhallows Staining	59	51
S. Alhallows the Wall	150	59
S. Alphage	120	62

	Bur.	*Plag.*
S. Andrew Hubbard	61	52
S. Andrew Undershaft	110	71
S. Andrew Wardrobe	142	81
S. Anne Aldersgate	67	57
S. Anne Black-Friers	146	107
S. Antholins Parish	37	16
S. Austins Parish	39	20
S. Barthol. Exchange	31	12
S. Bennet Fynch	54	33
S. Bennet Grace-church	27	14
S. Bennet Pauls-Wharf	118	91
S. Bennet Sherehog	12	4
S. Botolph Billinsgate	43	32
Christs Church	302	189
S. Christophers	24	13
S. Clements Eastcheap	43	39
S. Dionis Back-church	45	35
S. Dunstans East	149	112
S. Edmunds Lumbard-street	52	29
S. Ethelborough	103	51
S. Faiths	45	22
S. Fosters	61	51
S. Gabriel Fen-church	39	31
S. George Botolph-lane	15	9
S. Gregories by Pauls	119	59
S. Hellens	63	59
S. James Garlickhithe	64	61
S. John Baptist	59	43
S. John Evangelist	3	1
S. John Zachary	62	41
S. Katherine Coleman	134	108
S. James Dukes-place	101	68
S. Katherine Creechurch	443	207
S. Lawrence Jewry	42	39
S. Lawrence Pountney	103	61
S. Leonards Eastcheap	32	13
S. Leonards Foster-lane	141	104

S. Mag-

	Bur.	Plag.
S. Magnus	62	51
S. Margaret Lothbury	51	32
S. Margaret Moſes	16	14
S. Margaret New Fiſh ſtreet	61	42
S. Margaret Pattons	61	25
S. Mary Abchurch	47	21
S. Mary Aldermanbury	91	40
S. Mary Aldermary	43	32
S. Mary le Bow	15	12
S. Mary Bothaw	12	7
S. Mary Colechurch	13	4
S. Mary Hill	62	41
S. Mary Mounthaw	37	28
S. Mary Somerſet	109	92
S. Mary Stainings	42	22
S. Mary Woolchurch	24	16
S. Mary Woolnoth	41	25
S. Martins Ironmonger-lane	13	9
S. Martins Ludgate	121	64
S. Martins Orgars	44	23
S. Martins Outwich	30	15
S. Martins Vintrey	143	103
S. Matthew Friday-ſtreet	12	6
S. Maudlins Milk-ſtreet	200	13
S. Maudlins Old Fiſh-ſtreet	112	67
S. Michael Baſſiſhaw	94	93
S. Michael Cornhill	59	42
S. Michael Crooked-lane	64	49
S. Michael Queenhithe	105	81
S. Michael Querne	31	15
S. Michael Royal	53	30
S. Michael Wood-ſtreet	68	34
S. Mildred Bread-ſtreet	30	24
S. Mildred Poultrey	47	23
S. Nicholas Acons	1091	603
S. Nicholas Cole-abby	207	160
S. Nicholas Olaves	151	32

	Bur.	Plag.
S. Olaves Hart-ſtreet	780	381
S. Olaves Jewry	1231	891
S. Olaves Silver-ſtreet	111	61
S. Pancras Soper-lane	1219	809
S. Peters Cheap	429	107
S. Peters Cornhill	420	310
S. Peters Pauls Wharf	516	410
S. Peters Poor	1988	1504
S. Stevens Coleman-ſtreet	1897	1609
S. Stevens Walbrooke	1646	910
S. Swithins London-ſtone	1793	1216
S. Thomas Apoſtles	121	111
Trinity Pariſh	62	41

A General BILL *for the Year* 1636, *being the laſt Year of the four great Plagues which happened before that in* 1665.

LONDON.	Bur.	Plag.
ST. Albans Wood-ſtreet	102	44
All-hallows Barking	204	146
All-hallows Bread-ſtreet	21	11
All-hallows the Great	219	24
All-hallows Honey-Lane	13	6
All-hallows the Leſs	144	96
All-hallows Lombard-ſtreet	38	26
All-hallows Staining	65	41
All-hallows the Wall	206	87
S. Alphage	174	96
S. Andrew Hubbard	67	54
S. Andrew Underſhaft	192	109
S. Andrew Wardrobe	41	18
S. Anns Alderſgate	47	26
S. Anns Black-Friars	36	14
S. Antholins Pariſh	56	30
S. Auſtins Pariſh	31	15
S. Barthol. Exchange	109	81

	Bur.	Plag.
S. Bennet Fynch	15	6
S. Bennet Grace-church	48	28
S. Bennet Pauls Wharf	309	144
S. Bennet Sherehog	20	7
S. Botolph Billinſgate	40	25
Chriſt Church	41	34
S. Chriſtopher	154	118
S. Clements Eaſtcheap	57	26
S. Dionis Back-church	113	54
S. Dunſtans Eaſt	44	29
S. Edmunds Lombard-ſtreet	67	54
S. Ethelborough	43	29
S. Faiths	17	8
S. Foſters	123	60
S. Gabriel Fen-church	69	40
S. George Botolph-lane	77	54
S. Gregorys by Pauls	69	43
S. Hellens	7	3
S. James Dukes-place	79	42
S. James Garlickhithe	144	97
S. John Baptiſt	109	86
S. John Evangeliſt	417	194
S. John Zachary	46	41
S. Katherine Coleman	96	72
S. Katherine Creechurch	35	16
S. Lawrence Jewry	154	99
S. Lawrence Pountney	80	59
S. Leonards Eaſtcheap	51	32
S. Leonards Foſter-lane	18	13
S. Magnus Pariſh	70	49
S. Margaret Lothbury	74	34
S. Margaret Moſes	55	38
S. Margaret New Fiſh-ſtreet	97	46
S. Margaret Pattons	49	36
S. Mary Abchurch	19	14
S. Mary Aldermanbury	16	6
S. Mary Aldermary	20	8
S. Mary-le-Bow	75	48

	Bur.	Plag.
S. Mary Bothaw	42	34
S. Mary Cole-church	120	86
S. Mary Hill	51	26
S. Mary Mounthaw	35	23
S. Mary Sommerſet	45	27
S. Mary Stainings	9	5
S. Mary Woolchurch	127	93
S. Mary Woolnoth	54	29
S. Martins Iremonger-lane	30	16
S. Martins Ludgate	149	116
S. Martins Orgars	11	5
S. Martins Outwich	22	11
S. Martins Vintrey	98	64
S. Matthew Friday-ſtreet	103	94
S. Maudlins Milk-ſtreet	62	51
S. Maudlins Old Fiſh-ſtreet	77	66
S. Michael Cornhill	109	97
S. Michael Baſſiſhaw	37	17
S. Michael Crooked-lane	57	18
S. Michael Queenhithe	69	59
S. Michael Querne	31	21
S. Michael Royal	53	35
S. Michael Wood-ſtreet	1203	734
S. Mildred Bread-ſtreet	213	98
S. Mildred Poultry	74	43
S. Nicholas Acons	970	553
S. Nicholas Cole-abby	1464	634
S. Nicholas Olaves	147	79
S. Olaves Hart-ſtreet	1505	703
S. Olaves Jewry	637	304
S. Olaves Silver-ſtreet	300	208
S. Pancras Soper-lane	554	311
S. Peters Cheap	2298	1703
S. Peters Cornhill	2111	1808
S. Peters Pauls-Wharf	1996	611
S. Peters Poor	2014	1317
S. Stevens Coleman-ſtreet	183	116

	Bur.	Plag.
S. Stevens Walbrooke	79	49
S. Swithins London-ſtone	86	67
S. Thomas Apoſtles	831	691

The Diſeaſes and Caſualties they were moſt ſubject to in the laſt Age, and the Diſeaſes we ought chiefly to provide againſt in theſe Times.

AGues and Fevers increaſe by our Surfeits and Exceſs, by theſe Proportions.

From	1629	to	1632	4418
	1632		1636	6233
	1636		1640	7549
	1640		1644	7979
	1644		1648	6852
	1648		1652	8623
	1652		1656	9819
	1656		1660	1147

Abortives, by reaſon of the ſtraitning of Bodies, mixtures of Copulation, and unwholeſome Diet, improve in theſe Proportions.

From	1629	to	1639	3798
	1639		1659	5981

The Scurvy hath increaſed in theſe Proportions.

From 1629 to 1640 but 346

And yet

From 1640 to 1660 1149

The

The Conſumption, with the addition of the *French* Pox; and the Ptiſick, which goeth under its Name, increaſeth thus:

From		to		
1629		1632	—	5986
1632		1636	—	8666
1630		1640	—	9119
1640		1644	—	9234
1644		1648	—	10844
1648		1652	—	9918
1652		1656	—	12115
1656		1660	—	13421

The Stone and Strangury, ſince we drink Ale ſo plentifully, ſeems to decreaſe thus:

1629	35	1653	44
1630	39	1654	38
1631	58	1655	49
1632	56	1656	57
1633	58	1657	72
1634	49	1658	69
1635	33	1659	22
1636	45	1660	30
1647	45	1661	
1648	42	1662	
1649	29	1663	
1650	28	1664	
1651	50	1665	
1652	41		

The Gout ſtands much at a ſtay, that is, anſwereth the general proportion of Burials: There dies one of 1000 of the Gout, though more die Gouty; the reaſon is, becauſe thoſe that have the Gout, are ſaid to be long Livers, and when they die, are returned as Aged.

The

The Rickets increased, from the Year 1634, when it first appeared, thus:

From 1629	to 1636		1719
From 1636	to 1647		2964
From 1647	to 1657		1474
From 1657	to 1665		984

And the Liver-grown, which is next of kin to it, thereupon decreased.

The Rising of the Stomach, since it was first mentioned 1636, is improved thus:

From 1636	to 1646		1149
From 1640	to 1656		1486
From 1656	to 1665		1986

Convulsions were but 52 in the Year 1629; and yet in 1636 they were 700 and odd, and increased since according to this proportion:

From 1636	to 1646		6401
From 1646	to 1656		9191
From 1656	to 1665		12981

Apoplexies and ſudden Obſtructions increaſe thus:

1629	22	1650	74
1630	36	1651	106
1631	0	1652	111
1632	17	1653	118
1633	24	1654	6
1634	35	1655	92
1635	26	1656	102
1636	0	1657	113
1647	68	1658	138
1648	74	1659	91
1649	64	1660	67

Bloody-Flux, Scowring and Flux, thus:

1629	449	1646	1147
1630	438	1647	206
1631	352	1648	304
1632	348	1649	444
1633	278	1650	833
1634	512	1651	762
1635	346	1652	653
1636	330	1653	200
1637	155	1654	386
1638	176	1655	168
1639	802	1656	368
1640	704	1657	362
1641	514	1658	233
1642	911	1659	246
1643	815	1660	251
1644	789	1661	571
1645	548		

Cancer, Gangrene, Fiſtula, Wolf.

From	1629	to 1632	85
	1632	1640	197
	1640	1648	562
	1648	1658	464
	1658	1665	344

Cholicks and Winds are decreaſed thus:

From	1629	to 1636	298
	1636	1646	316
	1646	1656	86
	1656	1665	147

Dropſy by exceſſive Drinking, is increaſed thus:

From	1629	to 1636	3214
	1636	1647	5964
	1647	1657	4270
	1657	1665	3986

King's Evil and Impoſtumes, thus:

From	1629	to 1636	244
	1636	1647	327
	1647	1657	294
	1657	1665	124

Lethargy, thus:

From	1629	to 1636	48
	1630	1647	87
	1647	1657	104
	1657	1665	46

Worms and Teeth, thus:

From 1629	to 1636		2958
1636	1647		2984
1647	1657		5896
1657	1665		6349

Purples and Spotted Fevers, thus:

From 1629	to 1636		1791
1636	1647		2858
1647	1657		4579
1657	1665		3811

Here Note, That we begin our Casualties at the Year 1629, that being the first Year wherein they were distinctly taken notice of.

It's observable also, that many times other Pestilential Diseases, as *Purple-Fevers*, *Small-Pox*, the *Dysentery*, called by some, *The Plague in the Guts*, forerun Plague-Years, that is, such Years as there die 200 of the *Plague* in a Year, two or three for the Bill that was about 8000 of all Diseases and Casualties, in the Year 1623, improved to 11000 in the Year 1624; and to 17000 in the Year 1624; the next Year, *viz.* the Year 1625, being 54000, of all Diseases and Casualties; and it's observed, that there died above 2000 of the *Small-Pox*, from the latter End of 1634, to the Beginning of 1636, when there died 10000 of the *Plague*.

Several

Several QUESTIONS resolved, in 1665, in reference to this Subject.

The Time wherein the City may be Re-peopled, after a great Plague.

THE Fears of People, that Houſes and other Things in *London* will be worth little or nothing after a great Mortality, rendereth it convenient to obſerve in what Time the City is Re-peopled after the greateſt Mortality; and that is, after two Years, as it is generally aſſerted, and effectually made good, by theſe Inſtances: For the Chriſtenings in the City alone, (if the Inhabitants be not *Anabaptiſts*) the moſt certain Standards of the Increaſe and Decreaſe of the Inhabitants thereof.

The Chriſtenings that were 8299 in the Year 1624, that is, the Year next preceeding the great *Plague* Year 1625, that ſwept away 54000, brought the Chriſtenings (by People's dying, flying, or miſcarriage) to 5247. But the next Year after, *viz.* 1626, they were 6701, and within two Years after, *viz.* 1628, they were 8408, ſuch is the Confluence of all Sorts of People to this great City.

In the Year 1602, that is, the next Year before the *Plague* Year 1603, the Chriſtenings were about 6000. But in the Year 1603, that is, the *Plague* Year it ſelf, they ſunk to 4789: And yet the next Year, *viz.* 1604. they crept up to 5458; and the next Year after that, (*viz.* 1605.) to 8004, and ſo Yearly, according to the ſubſequent Computation.

	1604	5458
	1605	6504
	1606	6614
	1607	6582
	1608	6845
	1609	6388
	1610	6785
	1611	7614
	1612	6986
	1613	6846
	1614	7408
	1615	7682
	1616	7985
	1617	7747
	1618	7735
	1619	8127
	1620	7847
In the Year	1621	there were Christened
	1622	8032
	1623	7824
	1624	7945
	1625	8299
	1626	6983
	1627	6702
	1628	8408
	1629	8564
	1630	9900
	1631	9385
	1632	8584
	1633	9584
	1634	9997
	1635	9855
	1636	10034
	1637	9259
	1638	10120

In the Year	1639	there were Christened 10150
	1640	10850
	1641	10670
	1642	10370
	1643	9410
	1644	8104
	1645	7966
	1646	7163
	1647	7332
	1648	6544
	1649	5825
	1650	5612
	1651	6071
	1652	6128
	1653	6155
	1654	6620
	1655	7004
	1656	7050
	1657	6685
	1658	6170
	1659	5690
	1660	6971
	1661	8855
	1662	
	1663	
	1664	

Whence it may be observed,

I. That in thirty Years space, that is, from 1603, to 1633, the City Christnings increased half in half; that is to say, from 5458 a Year, in the Year 1604, to 9997 a Year, in 1632.

II. That,

1. By reason of the Sickness in 1636.

2. By reason of the War in 1643, 1643, 1645, 1646, &c. during the Usurpation. And

And 3, By reason of the hundreds that were not Christened at all, or if they were, were not registred, the same decreased from about Nine thousand, to about Six thousand, *per annum.*

Whether London *be so obnoxious to the* Plague, *as it hath been in former times, as it was calculated in* 1665.

LONDON being indeed multiplied two Parts in three, in eighty Years, (and the more populous any Place is, the more infectious) it might seem to follow, that the City were more subject to Pestilential Malignities now than in times past.

Yet Experience assures us of the contrary; and Reason seconds Experience. For,

1. Altho' the Fumes, Steams, and Stenches, now grosser than formerly, by reason of the Increase of Houses, makes it in some respects more unhealthy, especially since the burning of Sea-Coal, yet they keep the Air from being so liable to foreign Impressions as formerly; it being an ingenious Man's Observation, that open and free Airs are most subject to both good and bad Impressions; the Fumes and Steams (especially of Sea-Coal) so thickning the Air, that it stands out against most foreign Influences.

2. Though the City be increased from 3508 Burials (as in the Year 1593) to 15625, (as in the Years 1634 and 1635) and from 5948 (as in the year 1603) to 17070 (as in the Year 1659) and the City is increased by turning Noblemens Houses there to Tenements, yet the Increase is removed into more open and free Air, and the Trade removed from the dirty and narrow Places in *Cannon-street*, and *Watling-street*, to *Paul's*, *Ludgate*, and *Fleet-street*; from *Bishopsgate*, and *Fenchurch*, to the *Strand Men*; avoiding those Places that are drain'd with old and dark houses, and building more new and lightsome

ones nearer and nearer to *Whitehall*, in a more convenient and healthy Air

What ſickly Years we have had theſe ſixty Years, and in what proportion of Time we are to look for ſickly Years. Calculated in 1665.

We mean by a ſickly Year, ſuch wherein the Burials exceed thoſe both of the precedent and ſubſequent Years, and not above two hundred dying of the *Plague*: for Years exceeding that Number of the *Plague*, we call *Plague* Years.

The Diſeaſes that beſides the *Plague* make ſickly Years, are the Small-Pox, the Meaſles, Spotted Fever, and the *Dyſentery*, commonly called The *Plague* in the Guts.

And that the World may ſee by what Spaces and Intervals we may hereafter expect ſuch Times of Mortality again; we may obſerve, that the Years 1618, 1620, 1623, 1624, 1631, 1633, 1634, 1649, 1652, 1654, 1656, 1658, 1661, were ſickly Years.

The *Plague* 1636 laſted twelve Years, in eigh whereof, there died two thouſand and odd a Yea one with another, and never under three hundrd ſixty four: an argument that the Contagion of ne Peſtilence dependeth more on the Diſpoſition of the Air, then upon the *Effluvia* of Men's Bodies A truth made manifeſt by the ſudden increaſe from one hundred and eighteen in one Week, to nine hundred and twenty ſeven in the next; and decreaſ from nine hundred and ninety three in one Week, o two hundred and fifty eight the next; and then again to eight hundred and fifty two. The next Alterations are certainly to be attributed rather to the Change of Air, then the Conſtitution of Men's Bodies, otherwiſe then as this depends upon that. Take all the Years from 1632 to 166[illegible], in one view, as they are enumerated in the ſubſequent Page.

1633	0
1634	1
1635	0
1636	10400
1637	3082
1638	363
1639	314
1640	1450
1641	1375
1642	1274
1643	996
1644	1492
1645	1871
1646	2365
1647	3597
1648	611
In the Year 1649	there died of the *Plague* 67
1650	15
1651	23
1652	16
1653	6
1654	16
1655	9
1656	6
1657	4
1658	14
1659	26
1660	13
1665	20
1663	
1664	
1665	

AN ACCOUNT OF THE PLAGUE at *NAPLES* in the Year 1656.

Of which there died in one Day 20000 Persons. With the Symptoms that appeared upon Dissection: And the approved Method of Cure.

IN the Opening and Dissecting at that time of two dead Bodies, one of a Man, the other of a Woman, on the First of *June* in the Year 1656, by Order from his Excellence and the most illustrious Magistrates deputed by this most faithful City, about the Sickness then rife, it was observed by the most expert Anatomists *Marco Aurelio Severino*, and *Felice Martorella*, (with the Assistance of the chief Physician and other Doctors) that

As for the distinction of the Spotted Fever and Purples, and that which is called the Tokens, thus much is observed, That upon the Incision of the Spots of the first two, there will arise a little Blood or Gleeting; but if the Tokens be cut, there will nothing of either arise, the whole Blood or Juice being supposed to have some Touch of a Gangrene or *Sphacelation*.

And as to the Buboes Venereal and Pestilential, they are supposed to be thus distinguished, that the Pestilential Tumours lie lower in the Groin.

all the Bowels were infected with black Spots, that is to ſay, the Heart, Lungs, Liver, Stomach, and the Inteſtines; beſides, that the Bladder of Gall was plainly found to be full of black, viſcid, and very thick Choler, which pertinaciouſly ſtuck to its Membrane; but above all, the Veſſels of the Heart were full of a grumous and black Blood. And this was the Summary of the Obſervation.

This being related by the ſame Signor *Felice*, in an Aſſembly of the above-mentioned moſt illuſtrious Magiſtrates, it was by them decreed, that, together with the Signori *Domenico Coccia*, *Onofrio Riccia*, *Carolo Pignataro*, *Franceſco Cafaro*, *Giovanni Giacomo Carbonello*, *Carolo Joveue*, *Andrea di Mauro*, and *Salvator Borrello*, aſſembled in one Place, they ſhould determine and order what ought to be done, as well for the Preſervation as for the Cure of this Sickneſs: Wherefore theſe being met in the Houſe of the ſaid Signor *Felice*, they ordered for Preventives, (as to Remedies moſt eaſy, and at hand) that it was greatly helpful, Firſt, to make in the Houſes Fires with Fumes of Roſemary, Bay-berries, Juniper, Frankincenſe, and the like. Secondly, Treacle-water, Treacle, Mithridate, Pills of *Ruffus*, againſt the *Plague*. The Compoſition of dry Figs, Rue, Walnuts, and Salt, which was King *Mithridates* Preſervative, and found in his Desk or Cabinet written with his own Hand. The Magiſtral Bezoar Vinegar, made with Brimſtone, Rue, Garlick, Cloves, Saffron, and Walnuts: The uſe of which is to dip in a Piece or Slice of Bread, and take it faſting. Good too are the Powders of Bole-Armonick, *Terra Sigillata*, *Terra di Malta*, Citron-Seeds pounded, Seeds of Baſil, Powder of Scordium or Water-Germander of *Centrayerva*, (or inſtead of it, *Virginia* Snake-weed) Bezoar Stone, Eaſt and Weſt: All which, or any, may be taken in the Pulp of Citron, ſharp Oranges, or with Juice of Limons. In the mouth they may hold crude Sulphur,

Zedoary,

Zedoary, Ariſtologia or Birthwort, Gentian, Carline, white Dittany, Maſterwort, Angelica, Vervain, Vincetoxicum or Swallow-wort, Goats Rue, Juniper Berries, Bay-Berries, Ivy-Berries, any one of theſe. To ſmell to (beſides the uſual Balls) they commended a Sponge well wet in Vinegar and Treacle, or elſe to make little hollow Boxes of Cyprus wood, Juniper, or of the Bay-tree, and therein to put Treacle, Vinegar and Rue. Good alſo herein are the Oils of yellow Amber, and of Camphire. Let them anoint their Heart, Temples, Noſtrils, and the Wriſts with the Oil of Matthiolus or Treacle-water, or make a Liniment of Treacle, Juice of Limons, Saffron, Dittany, Carline, boiled together, wherewith anoint. There may be made alſo a Compound Vinegar to put into a Baſon, wherewith to bathe or wet the Hands, Wriſts, and Noſtrils, by taking a quantity of *Schænanthus*, Roots of Carline, Nutmeg, Cloves, Benjoin, *Calamus Aromaticus*, and boil all with a quantity of the beſt Vinegar.

Of the ſame Vertues to preſerve, are other Magiſtral Remedies endowed; ſuch are the Antipeſtilential Elixir of *Crollius*, the great Electuary of *Matthiolus*, and his Oil of Scorpions, the Bezoartick Vinegar of *Erneſtus*, the Diaſcordium of *Fracaſtorius*, and above all is commended the Powder of *Padre Gio. Baptiſta Eremitano*, which was experimented in the *Plague* at *Naples* the Age paſt, and now obſerved with moſt happy Succeſs by many Phyſicians. The Compoſition of it is thus:

TAke Tormentil, red Sanders, white Dittany, burnt Harts-horn, Bole-Armoniack, fine Sugar, of each one Dram, Powder of Pearl, round Birthwort, Cinamon, Gentian, red and white Coral, of each half a Dram, Camphire two Scruples; make all into a moſt fine Powder. The Doſe is half a Dram at a time.

And

And you may take this in the Water of Scorzonera, Cardilli, or Juice of Limons. Alſo for a Preſervative they may take one Drop of the Great Duke's Oil, with ſome Water of Goats-Rue; and this too may do well in the Cure, increaſing only the quantity of the Oil.

Laſt of all, leaving a world of Remedies which here might be ſet down, the moſt potent Preſervative is the Elixir following:

TAke Aloes Hepatick, beſt Cinamon, and Myrrh, of each three Drams; Cloves, Mace, Lignum Aloes, Maſtick, and Bole-Armoniack, of each half a Dram; pure Sulphur four Drams, Roſemary ſeven Drams; macerate them all in *Aqua vitæ*, and accordingly draw off the Liquor. The Doſe is three or four Drops at a time in Cardilli or Scorzonera Water.

And thus much for the Preſervation.

Now for the Cure; 'tis neceſſary firſt to cleanſe the Body, either upward by Vomits, or downward by Stools; and this ought to be done ſuddenly with all ſpeed, before that the Strength fails. The Vomit may be provoked with Antimony, or with its Infuſion, or by Vinegar of Squills diſtilled with Scordium, Tormentil, Scabious, Citron-Seeds, Roots of *Aſrabacca* and of Gentian; or elſe rather with *Diaſarum Fernelii*. Downwards they may purge with Syrup of Roſes ſolutive, *Confectio Hamech*, *Trifera Perſica*, or Rhubarb with Decoction of Tormentil, Scordium, Tamarinds, *Contrayerva*: and if this cannot be done or made ready timely enough, give four Ounces of Conſerve of Damask Roſes, with Powder of Rhubarb, or with the Electuary of Juice of Roſes, with a little of *Contrayerva*, or the like.

As for letting Blood, it ought to be determined from a great Fever, from the Strength of the ſick Party, Ebullition of the Blood, and Inclination of Nature; limiting the place of bleeding conformable

to

to the Motion which ſhall be obſerved either in the upper, or lower, or cutaneous Parts; ſtill remembring the Advice of *Oribaſius*, to ſcarify the Calves of the Legs in caſe of great Fevers or Fermentations.

After purging let them uſe all poſſible means to provoke Sweat by Diaphoreticks, for the which the Berries of Tree-Ivy (powdered and taken in the beſt Wine, Carduus Water, or other) are much praiſed: ſo Flower of Brimſtone the Weight of two Scruples; Treacle alſo, or the above-mentioned great Antidote of *Matthiolus*, taking the Weight of three or four Drams, with adding thereto a Dram and half of the forenamed Magiſtral Powder of *Padre Gio. Baptiſta Eremitano*, in two Ounces of *Aqua vitæ*. Good too is the Salt of Aſh, the moſt cried up remedy of *Frederick vander Mye*, in the Contagion of *Breda*, (which was moſt like ours) to take thereof the Weight of twelve Grape-Kernels in Carduus-Water. 'Tis moreover an eaſie Sweat, pure Sulphur with Salt, boiled in Wine *in balneo Mariæ*, or elſe that of *Crollius*.

Let them inſiſt continually in the uſe of the above-named Antidotes, increaſing the Doſe; not neglecting alſo to try the uſe of *China China*, the which for many reaſons may happen not to be a little helpful; and the more, that it is in many places the appropriate Remedy for theſe Diſtempers.

Laſtly, as to what pertains to the Symptoms, that is Buboes or Botches, Puſtules and Spots, you muſt note, that if they come out kindly and with *levamen*, eaſe and relief, in ſuch caſe leave the work to Nature, helping their coming forth with Medicines emollient, relaxing and attractive or drawing; ſuch as are Frictions, dry Cuppings, or Scarifyings, Veſicatoirs or Bliſterings; the which, if the ſwellings are below, then apply them a few fingers beneath; if they be above, then apply them in like manner ſo far above on the Arms; noting, that the ſaid remedy of Veſicatoris may be changed in boiling Oil with Lime, applying

them to the ſame Parts; marking alſo, that if the ſaid Evil or Plague comes with a *Coma*, that is, a Sleeping, or other Symptom in the Animal Part, then the Bliſters ſhall be placed both on the upper and lower Parts.

Concerning the Buboes or Swellings in the Groin, if they bunch out kindly, you may cure them with gentle Means, ſuch as Oil of ſweet Almonds, Oil of Lillies, Butter, Hens-Greaſe, or elſe with the ſimple Oil of Scorpions, or Ointment of Marſh-mallows, with the Roots of Lillies beaten in a Mortar.

But if the Buboes come not out well, then look out more efficacious Remedies, applying on the part Cupping-glaſſes, with Scarification, Leeches, Bliſters, as before; this done, apply thereon a Pulteſs of Onions, Treacle, and Saffron, roaſted in Embers, after putting to ſome Hens-Greaſe, or the like. If they be to be cut, open them half ripe with a cold Iron, paſſing thorow a Stuppe or Lint; and cure them with a compound Ointment of Gum Elemi, Ammoniacum and Turpentine, of each a like quantity, with a little Saffron, Wax, and Oil of Roſes as much as will ſuffice.

The Carbuncles, vulgarly by the *Neapolitans* called *Ampolle*, that is, Blains, are cured by cutting the Part affected, ſcarifying it, and clapping thereto the ſame attractive or drawing Plaiſter, or Treacle with Onion, or elſe the Pulteſs of Scabious, Hens-Greaſe, and Treacle, hindering expreſly by all Means the Uſtion or Burning in the beginning, as well of the Carbuncles as of the Buboes, that ſo the Part may not be ſtrengthened: You muſt leave theſe Sores open by the Miſſaries, or Voiders, and Emunctories of the Body, for a long Time.

Naples, 2 *June* 1656.

FINIS.